SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.

LONDON: SATURDAY, MAY 6TH, 1905.

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ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

AT a meeting of the Council held, by kind permission of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, London, in their Board Room, on Wednesday, April 19th, 1905.

Present:

Mr. ANDREW CLARK, D.Sc., Chairman of Council, in the Chair.
Dr. WILLIAM COLLIER, President.
Mr. G. C. FRANKLIN, F.R.C.S., President-elect.
Dr. T. DRUSLYN GRIFFITHS, D.Sc., Past-President.
Sir VICTOR HORSLEY, F.R.S., Chairman of Representative Meetings.
Dr. E. MARKHAM SKERRITT, Treasurer.

Dr. JOHN FORD ANDERSON, London.
Dr. JAMES BARR, Liverpool.
Dr. MICHAEL BEVERLEY, Norwich.
Dr. H. LANGLEY BROWNE, West Bromwich.
Dr. R. COCHRANE BUIST, Dundee.
Dr. DUNCAN BURGESS, Sheffield.
Dr. W. A. CARLINE, Lincoln.
Dr. JAMES CRAIG, Dublin.
Mr. PEARSON R. CRESSWELL, C.B., Dowlais.
Dr. H. RADCLIFFE CROCKER, London.
Dr. W. G. CROWE, Worcester.
Lieut.-Colonel E. F. DRAKE-BROCKMAN, I.M.S. (ret.) (South Indian and Madras Branch), London.
Professor DAVID W. FINLAY, M.D., LL.D., Aberdeen.
Mr. C. E. S. FLEMMING, Bradford-on-Avon.
Dr. E. ROWLAND FOTHERGILL, London.
Dr. EDWARD LAWRENCE FOX, Plymouth.
Dr. JOHN H. GALTON, Upper Norwood.
Dr. JOSEPH J. GIUSANI, Cork.
Dr. BRUCE GOFF, Bothwell.
Dr. DAVID GOYDEN, Bradford.
Dr. MAJOR GREENWOOD, London.
Dr. JOSEPH GROVES, Carisbrooke.
Dr. JAMES HAMILTON, Glasgow.
Dr. T. ARTHUR HELME, Manchester.
Dr. J. H. HUNTER, South Shields.
Dr. R. MCKENZIE JOHNSTON, Edinburgh.
Mr. R. H. KINSEY, Bedford.
Dr. C. W. MARRIOTT, Reading.
Dr. C. H. MILBURN, Hull.
Dr. C. G. D. MOBIER (South Australia Branch), London.
Mr. W. JONES MORRIS, Portmadoc.
Professor J. T. J. MORRISON, Birmingham.
Dr. CHARLES JAMES MORTON, London.
Dr. JAMES MURRAY, Inverness.
Mr. D. A. O'SULLIVAN, London.
Mr. EDMUND OWEN, London.
Mr. C. H. WATTS PARKINSON, Wimborne Minster.
Dr. FRANK M. POPE, Leicester.
Dr. EDWIN RAYNER, Stockport.
Dr. J. MAXWELL ROSS, Dumfries.
Professor ROBERT SAUNDBY, M.D., LL.D., Birmingham.
Dr. CECIL E. SHAW, Belfast.
Professor W. R. SMITH, M.D. (Malta and Mediterranean Branch), London.
Dr. F. O. STEDMAN (Hong Kong Branch), Torquay.
Fleet-Surg. J. LLOYD THOMAS, R.N., Portsmouth.
Mr. JOHN LYNN THOMAS, C.B., Cardiff.
Dr. G. E. TWYNAM (Sydney and New South Wales Branch), London.
Dr. W. J. TYSON, Folkestone.
Mr. T. JENNER VERRALL, Brighton.
Dr. NORMAN WALKER, Edinburgh.
Major C. E. WILLIAMS, I.M.S. (Burmah Branch), London.

The minutes of the last meeting having been printed and circulated, and no objections received, were taken as read and signed as correct.

Read letters of apology from Sir Francis Lovell, Dr. E. G. Barnes, Dr. Brassey Brierley, Professor Byers, Dr. E. J. Cave, Dr. Maury Deas, Dr. G. Bagot Ferguson, and Mr. W. D. Spanton.

A letter of acknowledgement to the resolution of condolence passed by the Council upon the death of Dr. Ogilvie Grant was read and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

It was decided that in future the Council should meet at ten o'clock.

The President-elect announced that at the Church service at Leicester the sermon would be preached by the Right Rev. Dr. Gore, Bishop of Birmingham.

Attention having been called to an anonymous circular which had been circulated to the Divisions, the following resolution was passed and ordered to be sent to the Secretaries of Divisions:

> That the Council having been informed that an anonymous circular has been issued impugning the construction of the Council as well as the motives of its members, do express their regret that any one professing friendship for the Association should have adopted such a course of action in preference to a more straightforward one.

The election of candidates was then considered, when 39 of the candidates whose names appeared on the circular convening the meeting were duly elected members of the Association.

The financial statement for the year ending December 31st, 1904, as certified by the auditors, was approved and ordered to be circulated, together with the estimate of receipts and expenditure for the current year, to the Secretaries of Branches and Divisions and published in the JOURNAL, in accordance with By-law 34. This statement will appear in a future issue of the SUPPLEMENT.

The reply from the Prime Minister to the Memorial of the Association as to the best means of counteracting the evil of venereal disease was read and ordered to be entered on the Minutes together with a copy of the Memorial.

10, Downing Street, Whitehall, S.W.,
February 27th, 1905.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Balfour desires me to acknowledge the receipt of the Memorial which you have forwarded on behalf of the Council of the British Medical Association, urging the Government to carry into effect

Recommendation 50 of the Report of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Physical Deterioration.

In reply, he desires me to say that he notes the views which the memorialists have expressed upon the subject, and they will receive careful consideration.

I remain, yours faithfully,
WILFRID M. SHORT.

Guy Elliston, Esq.

MEMORIAL
TO THE
RIGHT HONOURABLE ARTHUR JAMES BALFOUR, P.C., M.P.,
Prime Minister.

THE MEMORIAL of the British Medical Association

SHEWETH that on May 11th, 1899, the British Medical Association, a body now numbering over 19,000 of the medical practitioners of the British Empire, urged upon the Government of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria the great need that existed for an inquiry into the prevalence and the treatment of venereal disease among the civil population of this country, a disease which not only undermines the constitution of those who contract it in the first instance, but by reason of the many ways in which it may be transmitted, destroys the health and happiness of countless other persons, and induces in the children of those originally infected diseases of a most formidable character.

In the Report of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Physical Deterioration which recently sat and took evidence on the question of the prevalence and spread of venereal disease, the evidence adduced by the expert witnesses emphasized the grave importance of inquiry, when Recommendation 50 was passed as follows:

> The Committee recommend the appointment of a Commission of Inquiry into the prevalence and effects of syphilis, having special regard to the possibility of making the disease notifiable and to the adequacy of hospital accommodation for its treatment.

The British Medical Association would therefore respectfully urge upon His Majesty's Government the necessity of granting this inquiry as suggested by the Inter-Departmental Committee of the Government, and as prayed for by the British Medical Association in 1899.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

ANDREW CLARK, F.R.C.S.,
Chairman of Council.
British Medical Association.

Mr. W. E. Hempson was unanimously reappointed Solicitor to the Association for the ensuing twelve months.

On consideration of the minutes of the Journal and Finance Committee it was decided to make a grant of £200 towards the establishment of a Research Scholarship in Tropical Medicine, provided that the Government will contribute at least an equal amount from the Imperial exchequer.

The accounts for the quarter ending March 31st last, to the total of £10,611 2s., were approved, and the Treasurer empowered to pay those remaining outstanding, amounting to £3,380 11s. 11d.

The Council decided to recommend the members at the annual general meeting to vote a sum of £300 to the office staff superannuation scheme.

On consideration of the proposed alteration in the Memorandum of Association, it was resolved to take a further opinion and to consult Mr. Beaufort Palmer.

The minutes of the Premises and Library Committee were approved, and the recommendation to paint the Strand property was ordered to be carried out.

The accounts for the quarter were received and the Treasurer empowered to pay them.

The minutes of the Hospitals Committee of March 2nd and 30th, 1905, were then considered, and the following resolutions approved:

> That Dr. Kingston Fowler, Dr. Lauriston E. Shaw, Dr. Norman Walker, and Mr. R. H. Wolstenholme be added to the Committee.
>
> That, except in emergencies, sufficient evidence shall be obtained on two points: (*a*) That the patient is not in a position to pay for adequate treatment; (*b*) that the case is, from a hospital point of view, suitable for treatment.
>
> That all cases of trivial accident or illness deemed ineligible for the casualty department shall, after having been seen, be referred for treatment elsewhere.
>
> That, on the first visit, no patient be permitted to leave a hospital without having been seen by a registered medical practitioner.

On consideration of the minutes of the Committee of Chairmen on the alteration of the Memorandum of Association, it was decided to take a further legal opinion before reporting to the Representative Meeting that the alterations proposed on the lines laid down in the Birmingham resolutions would not give the Association the power to undertake individual medical defence.

The Council approved certain alterations to the Standing Orders, and decided to give notice to amend Articles XXVII, XXXVI, XXXVII, XXXVIII, XLI, XLIV, and By-laws 22, 27, 28, and 42, notice of which was published in the SUPPLEMENT of April 22nd, p. 153. The proposal to amend Article XLV was referred back, and the proposal to amend By-law 40 relating to Standing Committees was not approved.

It was decided to publish annually in the SUPPLEMENT a return showing for each member of the Central Council his possible and actual attendances at Council, Committee, and Subcommittee meetings not later than the last week in April. This return appeared on pp. 165-9 in the SUPPLEMENT of April 29th.

It was resolved that no report of a Committee be discussed by the Council unless it has been three days in the hands of the members, except by the special permission of the Council.

The minutes of the Royal Naval and Military Committee were received and approved.

On consideration of the minutes of the Organization Committee of April 11th it was resolved that the Rules submitted by the Altrincham, North Manchester, and South Suffolk Divisions be approved.

It was decided to adopt the resolutions with respect to the formation of constituencies for election of Representatives in Representative Meetings for the year 1905-6, and as to the election of members of Council for the year 1905-6 by Branches in the United Kingdom, and by Branches not in the United Kingdom.

The Council approved the expression of opinion that it is desirable that Branches not in the United Kingdom should frame, under By-law 27, Rules providing that qualifications for representation on the Central Council shall include personal knowledge of the requirements of such Branches.

It was decided that the Organisation Committee should investigate and report on the working of the present system of Division and Branch income and expenditure.

With reference to the minute of the Council of February 15th, that the Chairman of Council and Chairman of Representative Meetings be empowered, if they consider necessary, to take any steps, including the engagement of legal assistance, to oppose the application of "The Incorporated Society for the Promotion of Higher Education and Training of Nurses" to the Board of Trade, it was reported that in pursuance of the instruction of the Council application had been made to the Board of Trade for permission to oppose the proposition, and the following reply had been received:

(635) Board of Trade,
April 10th, 1905.

Sir,

The Incorporated Society for Promoting the Higher Education and Training of Nurses.

I am directed by the Board of Trade to refer to your letter of the 22nd ultimo, in which you expressed a wish on behalf of the British Medical Association to be heard in opposition to the granting of a licence to the above named Society to incorporate without the word "Limited" after its name, and to inform you that the hearing of objections will take place on Friday, May 5th, at 11.30, in the Deputation Room of the Board, at 7, Whitehall Gardens, S.W.

I am also to say that the Board desire to hear the objectors personally, and not solicitors or counsel on their behalf.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
(Signed) G. S. BARNES.

J. Smith Whitaker, Esq., Medical Secretary,
British Medical Association,
429, Strand, W.C.

The Board of Trade have been informed that the Chairman of the Representative Meetings, the Chairman of Council, Dr. Langley Browne, and Dr. Galton will attend at the time and place stated for the purpose of laying before the Board the objections of the Association to the registration under the Companies Act of the Society in question.

The minutes of the Medical Defence Committee were received, and the action of the Committee in circulating to the Divisions the Explanatory Memorandum and Draft Scheme was approved. The Memorandum and Draft Scheme was published in the SUPPLEMENT, April 1st, p. 129.

The minutes of the Ethical Committee were then considered, and the adoption of Rule Z by the Cardiff and Isle of Wight Divisions was approved. Also the following Rule submitted by the Blyth Division:

> No member of this Division shall enter into an agreement with any person or persons, other than members of the medical profession, which shall contain restrictions on the right of such member to practise in the Division after the termination of any appointment held or to be held by such member.

The Council approved a modified form of Rule Z as suitable for adoption by Branches.

It was decided to advise Branches to make definite pro-

vision in their rules for appeals from their decisions to the Central Ethical Committee and Council, and that the term "Central Ethical Committee" be inserted in the regulations of the Association as an alternative designation of the Ethical Committee of the Association.

It was resolved that in the special circumstances of a case referred to in the Minutes of the Committee, the resignation of the member in question be accepted.

It was resolved to insert warning notices in the advertisement columns of the JOURNAL with respect to appointments under the Poor-law and sanitary authorities, and with respect to hospital appointments, under the same regulations as have been prescribed by the Council concerning contract practice appointments.

With regard to the recommendation that the Council should memorialize the medical schools of the United Kingdom on the necessity for having addresses given to students once a year on medical ethics, it was resolved that the terms of the proposed memorial be first submitted to the Council at its meeting in July next.

It was resolved that the Council disapproves of the action of specially-skilled pathologists who have agreed to make *post-mortem* examinations, and to give evidence at special inquest cases, for the ordinary fee of two guineas.

On the recommendation of the Medico-Political Committee the Council decided to take steps to have trachoma scheduled as a loathsome and contagious disease in the Aliens Bill.

Also, with reference to a Congress on School Hygiene which it was proposed to hold in 1907, and which it was thought desirable that the British Medical Association should co-operate in organizing, it was decided that the Council should take steps so that the British Medical Association should be represented on any Committee formed for the organization of the proposed Congress.

At half-past six the Council rose, to meet again on Wednesday, May 17th, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon.

Proceedings of Standing Committees.

ETHICAL COMMITTEE.

A MEETING of the Ethical Committee was held at the office of the Association on April 7th, when there were present: Professor SAUNDBY, Chairman, in the chair, Mr. Andrew Clark, Chairman of Council, Mr. H. A. Ballance, Dr. A. G. Bateman, Mr. G. H. Broadbent, Dr. W. A. Elliston, Dr. Bruce Goff, Dr. E. Jepson, Mr. D. A. O'Sullivan.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from the President of the Association, Dr. Ferguson, and Mr. Spanton.

EXCLUSION FROM A LOCAL MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The Committee had before it a correspondence which the Editor had forwarded for their consideration, between himself and a medical practitioner who complained of his exclusion from a local medical society because he refused to subscribe to a regulation as to rates and contract practice which in his view was not duly observed by members of the society, and was also, he considered, objectionable in principle. The Editor had replied that in his opinion the member in question should have joined the local medical society and then made such representations as he thought proper as to the advisability of certain rules or the allegation that they were not properly observed. The Committee concurred in the views expressed by the Editor.

REPORT OF CASES DEALT WITH.

The Committee also approved the replies which had been given in the following cases dealt with by the Chairman and Secretary since the last meeting:

Ethical Rules of Divisions with Respect to Appointments, etc.

The Honorary Secretary of a Division—who stated that some of the Executive Committee of the Division, on consideration of various proposals from the Medico-Political Committee relating to contract practice, etc., failed to see that there was any agreement which bound members of Divisions to act in accordance with any resolutions which might be adopted in reference to such matters—was advised that if Rules similar to the Bradford Ethical Rules (of which a copy was forwarded) were adopted, it would be possible to pass resolutions in reference to contract practice and other matters which would be binding upon members of the Division.

A Circular Intimating Partnership.

A member was advised that a circular intimating that he had taken a partner ought only to be sent to patients who had been on the books of the applicant within the previous two years, and who were not known to have placed themselves under the regular care of any other practitioner; also that it was permissible in such a circular to refer to the actual previous experience of the incoming partner in any speciality in which he might desire to practise.

Prizes to Members of Clubs for Canvassing.

A medical officer of a club who inquired as to the propriety of presenting a prize to the members of the club who brought in the most new members, he and his partner and assistant being the only medical practitioners in the district, was advised that the offer of such a prize was undesirable in any case, as being liable to operate in effect as canvassing even in the special circumstances stated.

An Exhibition of Medico-Electrical Appliances.

To a medical practitioner who sought advice as to the propriety of taking charge and giving a short demonstration daily (for which he would be paid) at a department of "medical electricity" in an electrical exhibition shortly to be held in the town in which he practised, and stating that his name would not be published in the advertisement, the following reply had been sent:

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.
Medical Secretary's Office,
429, Strand, W.C.

Dear Sir,—Having consulted the Chairman of the Ethical Committee, I am authorized to state that for a medical man to take charge of a so-called department of medical electricity, and to give a short demonstration daily in an exhibition open to the public, is a course which would probably provoke much unfavourable comment, and would in his opinion be distinctly open to objection.

I am to suggest for your consideration that in point of fact electrical apparatus used in the treatment of disease can only be considered specially medical in respect of its application, the mere working of the apparatus can be shown by any competent electrician, and the only matter for which medical knowledge might be necessary would be in the demonstration of its actual use in the treatment of disease, which is not desirable in a public exhibition.

I am,
Yours faithfully,
(Signed) J. SMITH WHITAKER,
Medical Secretary.

The Committee ordered that the reply be entered on the minutes.

Division and Branch Rules.

The CHAIRMAN reported that he had submitted to the Council the following Rules received subsequent to the last meeting of the Committee, and his action was approved: South-Western Branch (Rules of Procedure), Southampton Division (Bradford Rules), Tyneside Division (Rule Z), Monmouth Division (Rule Z).

PUBLICATION OF NAMES IN TRADE ADVERTISEMENTS, ETC.

The report of the Medical Secretary was received and approved with reference to cases of publication of the names of medical men in trade advertisements, and cases of newspaper notices of medical practitioners, in which action had been taken under the standing instructions of the Committee since the last meeting.

The following cases among others received special consideration:

Cases in India.

A complaint from the Punjab as to an advertisement of a medical hall, in which case the complainant had been informed of the difficulty which the Committee experienced in dealing with cases of the kind from India and

the Colonies owing to the differences of local standards, and it had been recommended that these cases should be brought before the local Branches of the Association; also a complaint of advertising by a medical practitioner in Bengal, in reference to which the Medical Secretary drew attention to the fact that there was at present no organized Branch in Bengal, and it was resolved that in cases in which there is no Branch the attention of the medical man concerned in the advertisement be drawn to the objections thereto.

Announcement of Commencing Practice.

A medical practitioner who had been informed that the attention of the Committee had been drawn to a notice in a newspaper intimating that he was commencing practice in a district, had replied that until receiving this communication he was not aware that objection was taken to such notices, and expressed his regret that through ignorance he had unintentionally transgressed a rule of the profession.

Assistance in an Investigation by a Division.

The Medical Secretary's report was approved of a visit to the Isle of Wight to assist the Division in the investigation of an ethical case.

DIVISION AND BRANCH RULES.

The Committee recommended the Council to approve the adoption of certain model Rules by the Cardiff and Isle of Wight Divisions, and the following Rule submitted by the Blyth Division:

No Member of this Division shall enter into an agreement with any person or persons other than members of the medical profession, which shall contain restrictions on the right of such member to practise in the Division after the termination of any appointment held or to be held by such Member.

With reference to other Rules which had been submitted by the Blyth Division the Committee approved the advice already given to the Division, that such matters were more suitably provided for by resolution than by Rule, and that by adopting Rules similar to the Bradford Ethical Rules they would be enabled to make such resolutions binding upon their members.

ORGANIZATION OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR DEALING WITH ETHICAL MATTERS.

The Committee received the report of the Subcommittee appointed to consider the present organization of the Association for dealing with ethical matters, and the changes required therein. A memorandum prepared by the Medical Secretary for the Subcommittee was approved and ordered to be entered on the minutes of the Committee (see page 181).

Branch Form of Rule Z.

On the advice of the Subcommittee the Council was recommended to approve the following modified form of Rule Z as suitable for adoption by Branches:

MODEL RULE FOR BRANCHES *RE* CIRCULATION OF NOTICES IN CERTAIN CASES.

Rule Z.—In every case in which the Branch Council shall, after due inquiry in accordance with the Rules of the Branch, have passed a resolution declaring that in the opinion of the Branch Council the conduct of any medical practitioner or practitioners, whether by contravention of the Rules of the Branch, or otherwise, is detrimental to the honour and interest of the medical profession, it shall be the duty of the Ethical Committee of the Branch to submit a report of the whole facts of each particular case to the Central Ethical Committee, and, subject to the approval of the said Committee, or, if the opinion of the said Committee be adverse, subject to the approval of a three-fourths majority of those present and voting in a Special Meeting of the Branch Council, convened to consider the comments of the Central Ethical Committee, to cause such resolution to be brought directly to the knowledge of every member of the Branch, by means of a notice in the following form, which notice it shall be the duty of the Honorary Secretary of the Branch to authenticate by his signature.

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

_____ *Branch.*

(PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL.)

NOTICE.

In pursuance of Rule Z of the Branch, Notice is hereby given by the Ethical Committee of the said Branch that at a meeting of the Branch Council, held at , on the of , a resolution in the following terms was duly passed:—

"*That in the opinion of this Branch Council the conduct of Dr. of is (in contravention of the Rules of the Branch, and)* detrimental to the honour and interests of the Medical Profession, within the meaning of the Rule(s)*....."

Signed by order of the Ethical Committee of the Branch of the British Medical Association,

Honorary Secretary.

* Delete words in ( ) if not required.

Model Ethical Rules of Divisions and Branches.

It was decided that Rules 1 and 3 of the model Rules of ethical procedure of Divisions be reconsidered, and that an amended draft be submitted to the Committee at its next meeting; also that it be recommended to the Council that Branches be advised to make definite provision in their Rules for appeals from their decisions to the Central Ethical Committee and Council.

Amendment of Article XLIV (e).

The Council was recommended, when opportunity should occur, to propose an alteration of Article XLIV (*e*) in order (*a*) that the Article may expressly refer to an inquiry by a Division as well as by a Branch, and (*b*) to make clear that the "commencement" of an inquiry is the time when it is brought officially under the notice of a body authorized under the regulations of the Association to investigate ethical matters.

Designation of "Central" Ethical Committee.

The Committee also recommended that the regulations of the Association should be altered so as to provide for the use of the term "Central Ethical Committee" as an alternative designation of the Ethical Committee of the Association.

Procedure of the Central Ethical Committee.

The Committee instructed the Medical Secretary to draw up and submit to the next meeting a short statement of the procedure of the Committee in dealing with ethical cases of various kinds, suitable for the information of those who may have occasion to bring cases before the Committee.

Alleged Canvassing in Connexion with Dispensaries.

On consideration of the report of a Branch Council with reference to the position of medical officers of certain dispensaries in respect of which canvassing was alleged, the Committee concurred in the report of the Branch Council that on the facts as stated by that Council it was inconsistent with membership of the Association to hold appointments in connexion with the said dispensaries as at present conducted. With respect to the question whether the dispensaries were or were not medical aid associations, the Committee accepted the following reply of the Branch Council:

"On June 6th, 1899, the General Medical Council passed the following resolution:

'That the Council strongly disapproves of medical practitioners associating themselves with Medical Aid Associations which systematically practise canvassing and advertising for the purpose of procuring patients.'

The General Medical Council does not define the term 'Medical Aid Association,' and it must therefore be taken that the characteristic feature of the conduct of which the General Medical Council, by the above resolution, expresses its disapproval, is defined by the words 'which systematically practise canvassing and advertising for the purpose of procuring patients.'"

and expression of opinion that in the case in question there was evidence of systematic canvassing and advertising for the purpose of procuring patients. The Committee were of opinion that the evidence available was insufficient to justify reporting the matter to the General Medical Council.

Inquiry as to a Hospital.

The Committee considered the report of a Division on the mode of formation of a special hospital, and resolved: That the Committee disapproves of the method of formation of the hospital in question, by which the rest of the medical profession in the district was wholly ignored, and the medical practitioner who took part in the promotion and his partner were elected to form the entire staff of the proposed hospital, as set forth in the report of the Division, and concurs in the opinion of the Division that the conduct of the medical practitioner named in the report of the Division has been in this respect detrimental to the honour and interests of the profession.

A Question in connexion with the Post-Office Medical Service.

In a case reported by the Executive Committee of a Division as to the alleged interference by a post-office medical officer with the patient of a private practitioner, it was resolved that it would be necessary for the Ethical Committee of the Division to hear the post-office medical officer's case before an opinion could be pronounced affecting him personally, but that, if the facts were as stated, the conduct of the officer in question was improper.

"*Specially Skilled Pathologists.*"

The Committee resumed consideration of the question, deferred from the last meeting, as to the position of special pathologists acting for coroners at ordinary fees, and resolved: That the Committee disapproves of the action of specially-skilled pathologists who have agreed to make *post-mortem* examinations, and to give evidence at special inquest cases, for the ordinary fee of two guineas.

Warning Notices in the JOURNAL.

On consideration of a request from the Honorary Secretary of a Branch that the warning notices in the JOURNAL should be inserted for a longer period than a month without renewed application from the Honorary Secretary of the Division or Branch concerned, the Committee resolved that they could not recommend the Council to modify the regulations as to the warning notices in the JOURNAL in the manner proposed.

Extension of Scope of Warning Notices.

On consideration of an application from a member of the Association, and an expression of opinion by the Chairman of the Public Health Committee in reference thereto, it was decided to recommend to the Council that warning notices in the JOURNAL should in future be inserted in respect to public health and Poor-law appointments under the same regulations as with regard to contract practice appointments; also, in response to the application of a Branch Council, that warning notices as to hospital appointments should similarly be inserted.

Issue of Circulars Applying for Contract Practice Appointments.

The Committee considered a complaint with reference to the issue of circular letters of application for a contract practice appointment. The Medical Secretary reported that he had notified the practitioners concerned that the case would come before the Committee for consideration, and that one had challenged the right of the Committee to consider the case until it had been considered by the Division of which he was a member. The Honorary Secretary of the Division had also written, taking the same view of the case, and by instruction of the Chairman it had been pointed out to the Honorary Secretary that, while the Committee always refers to the Divisions for primary investigation cases in which there is doubt as to matters of fact, the Committee deals in the first instance with complaints received by it as to advertisements when the documents laid before it appear to afford sufficient evidence of the facts; also that the Rules of the Division, which had been cited in the matter are only binding upon members of the Division, and that the complainant in this case was not a member of the Division in question. The Committee approved the reply given to the Honorary Secretary of the Division, and expressed the opinion that the distribution of such circular letters of application to all members of a society is most undesirable.

Alleged "Covering" by the Employment of an Unqualified Assistant.

The Committee received the report of a case in which a member of the Association had asked the Association to bring before the General Medical Council a charge of covering by employment of an unqualified assistant. By instruction of the Chairman of the Committee the solicitor had been consulted in the matter and preliminary steps taken to prepare a case for consideration by the General Medical Council, but the practitioner against whom the complaint was made had now discharged the assistant in question.

The Committee approved the action of the Chairman, and recommended the Council to authorize the Committee to go to such expense, not exceeding £10, as may be necessary in preparing for the consideration of the General Medical Council any case in which there should appear to the Chairman and the Solicitor to be sufficient prima-facie evidence to justify further investigation.

Application for Advice.

The Committee considered the following application for advice:

> Two Members of the Association are respectively Chairman and Treasurer of a High School for Girls. The staff, governing body, scale of fees, and other particulars regarding the School are advertised in a local paper.
>
> In the same paper are advertisements of two Slate Clubs, in which the names of the medical officers of the clubs appear as such.
>
> A question having been raised as to the ethical propriety of the advertisement of the names of medical men in connexion with the Slate Clubs, one of these medical men attempted to justify himself by pointing to the publication of the names of the medical practitioners who hold the offices above stated in connexion with the school.
>
> The applicant submits that, from an ethical standpoint, the two cases are not analogous, inasmuch as in the case of the Slate Clubs the medical men are advertised in their professional capacity, while in the case of the school the names of the medical men are simply given along with those of lay persons holding similar positions.

The Committee concurred in the view taken by the applicant that his case is not analogous to the advertisement of names in connexion with a slate club, and expressed the opinion that there was no objection to the publication in connexion with the school.

Interpretation of an Agreement.

The Committee took into further consideration a case before it at its last meeting, concerning the interpretation of an agreement between two medical practitioners in respect to club appointments, a communication having been received from the respondent in the case subsequent to the last meeting of the Committee.

The Committee decided that the circumstances stated by the respondent did not affect their view of the interpretation of the agreement, but in their opinion the respondent, if dissatisfied with the operation of the agreement, might give reasonable notice to terminate it.

Non-medical Bodies and Sight-Testing.

After consideration of the resolution of a general meeting of the Metropolitan Counties Branch the Committee expressed the opinion that no medical practitioner should be associated with the examination of any non-medical bodies which profess to give certificates in eye-testing.

Students and Medical Ethics.

The Committee resolved to represent to the Council the desirability of memorializing the medical schools of the United Kingdom on the necessity of having addresses given to students once a year on medical ethics.

APPENDIX.

MEMORANDUM on the present organization of the Association for dealing with ethical matters, as determined I. by the Regulations of the Association; II. by the Rules of Divisions and of Branches; and III. by the procedure adopted by these bodies and by the Central Ethical Committee.

I.—REGULATIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

A.—Contained in the Articles and By-laws.

The action of the Association in ethical matters rests fundamentally upon the following regulations:—

BY-LAW I.—" . . . Every candidate for Membership of the Association shall apply . . . stating his agreement, if elected, to abide by the Regulations and By-laws of the Association, and the Rules of such Division and Branch to which he may at any time belong. . . ."

This By-law deriving its force from—

ARTICLE II.—" . . . elected in such manner and upon such conditions as may be prescribed . . . by the By-laws";

and from—

ARTICLE XLVII.—" . . . the rights and obligations of every Member . . . shall be such as may . . . be prescribed and determined by or in accordance with By-laws . . ."

BY-LAW 11.—

(*a*) "Subject to the Regulations and By-laws of the Association, each Division and each Branch shall be free to govern itself in such manner as it shall think fit, and for that purpose to make . . . such Rules as it think fit, and to repeal or alter the same. . . ."

(*b*) "The Rules so made and for the time being in force shall be binding on the Members constituting the Division or Branch. . . ."

BY-LAW 12.—"The Rules made by Divisions and Branches shall be submitted for approval to the Council, and shall not come into operation unless and until they are approved by such Council."

ARTICLE XXXV.—"A Resolution of any Representative Meeting . . . which . . . relates to . . . matters affecting the honour or interests of the Medical Profession, and is carried by a majority of two-thirds of the votes given thereon . . . shall be deemed to be a decision of the Association. . . ."

ARTICLE XLII.—"Any Member of the Association . . . convicted in a Court of Justice of any felony or misdemeanour, or whose name shall have been erased from the *Medical Register* under Section XXIX of the Medical Act, 1858, or who shall have forfeited by misconduct the Medical Qualification by virtue of which he became eligible for Membership . . . shall, *ipso facto*, cease to be a Member of the Association."

ARTICLE XLIII. "Any Member of the Association whose conduct shall, upon due enquiry, be deemed . . . detrimental to the honour and interests of the Medical Profession, or calculated to bring the profession into disrepute, may be expelled from Membership. . . ."

ARTICLE XLIV.—

(*a*) "The Council shall have power on the representation of any Branch . . . to expel from Membership of the Association any Member of such Branch whose conduct shall be held to be such as renders him liable to expulsion under Article XLIII."

(*b*) "Each Branch out of the United Kingdom having a Membership of not less than 30 shall have power . . . to expel from Membership of the Association any Member of such Branch whose conduct shall be held to be such as renders him liable to expulsion under Article XLIII."

(*c*) "A majority of two-thirds of those present and voting whether in the Council or in a Branch Meeting shall be required for the purpose of exercising the powers conferred by the last two preceding clauses."

(*d*) "When a Member is expelled he shall *ipso facto* cease to be a Member, but shall be liable to pay to the Association all sums due from him to the Association or any Division or Branch thereof, at the time of his expulsion."

(*e*) "No Member in regard to whom a representation as aforesaid has been made or whose conduct is under investigation, or is the subject of inquiry by the Council or by a Branch, shall be capable of effectively resigning his Membership of the Association until the decision of the Council or Branch be made known."

ARTICLE IX.—" . . . No person whose former Membership shall have been forfeited under the provisions of Articles XLII, XLIII, and XLIV, or any of them, shall be eligible for re-election by any Branch Council without the sanction previously obtained of the Council of the Association."

BY-LAW 40, SECTION (7).—" An Ethical Committee shall be appointed . . . which shall advise the Council on proposed Rules of Divisions and Branches relating to Professional conduct, shall investigate and report to the Council upon the cases of Members whose conduct is to be considered by the Council, shall adjudicate in cases of disputes on ethical questions referred to it by Members of the Association, and generally shall advise, and, where so directed, act for the Council, on all questions of Professional conduct. . . ."

A Member is bound, therefore, as regards matters of professional conduct:

(*a*) By any Articles and By-laws specifically relating thereto, of which there are at present only the above-quoted Articles XLII, XLIII, XLIV, and IX;

(*b*) Under Article XXXV he is bound by a resolution of the Representative Meeting specifically relating to professional conduct, provided that such resolution is carried by a majority of two-thirds of those present and voting;

(*c*) He is bound by the Rules of the Division and Branch of which he may at any time be a Member;

(*d*) By By-law 40 (7) the Ethical Committee has power to adjudicate in disputes between Members.

B.—Existing Regulations affecting Professional Conduct, other than those contained in the Articles and By-laws.

On taking up its duties under the new Constitution the Ethical Committee considered two general questions:

Whether it was desirable to attempt at once to frame an ethical code for the Association.

Whether it was desirable to require all Divisions and Branches to be subject to the same Rules, or to allow these to vary according to local conditions and opinions.

As regards framing an ethical code for the Association, the Committee decided that it was not desirable to attempt at once to frame a code.

The Committee has from time to time made pronouncements upon questions submitted to it, and these when approved by the Council and by the Representative Meeting become binding upon the Members.

These decisions have come before the Representative Meeting in the Annual Report of the Committee, which has each time been approved *en bloc*. It is perhaps a question for consideration whether such approval should be deemed to make all the decisions set forth in the Report binding as laws under Article XXXV. The Ethical Committee has no power to make general rules binding on the conduct of all Members. Such rules would have to be duly submitted to the Representative Meeting.

In general, matters are only decided by the Representative Meeting after three months' notice. The Report of the Ethical Committee, on the other hand, must be brought as nearly up to date as possible, and therefore can only be issued shortly before the meeting.

It might perhaps be convenient that expressions of opinion which were intended to have the effect of laws of the Association should be brought before the meeting by definite recommendations issued by the Committee at least three months before the meeting.

II.—LOCAL REGULATIONS—RULES OF DIVISIONS AND BRANCHES.

As regards these the Committee advised that Rules should be allowed to vary in different districts, provided that the Central Council, when asked to sanction Rules as to professional conduct, should be satisfied that they were approved by a sufficient majority of those concerned.

The Committee has not made, and has not recommended the Council to make, any suggestions to Divisions and Branches except upon questions of *procedure* purely (as to which see below, Section III).

Different Divisions have adopted Rules often taken from the rules of local Ethical Societies. These have been approved from time to time by the Council (subject to modification in some instances), and have served as models upon which other Divisions have based their Rules.

Early in 1904 the Bradford Division asked the Medical Secretary to draft for them a short set of Rules relative to questions of Contract Practice and Appointments. These were based entirely upon Rules already sanctioned by the Council, and have been found convenient as suggestions for other Divisions who required Rules of the kind.

Several Rules of Divisions have contained provisions that

members of the profession who violated generally-accepted laws of professional conduct, or special local Rules, should be excluded from professional recognition. To give proper effect to these decisions it was found that they must be communicated to all Members of the Division concerned, and as this raised certain questions of great difficulty, special consideration was given to this matter in the spring of the year 1904, with the result that a special Rule dealing with the subject was drafted as a suggestion to the Divisions, known for convenience as Rule "Z."

In at least three districts the question has arisen whether Branches could adopt some analogous rule, and it was in connexion partly with this question that the Subcommittee was appointed.

III.—PROCEDURE IN ETHICAL CASES.

The general principles underlying the present procedure of the Association are as follows:—

1. Inasmuch as the only sanction by which a body like the British Medical Association can enforce its decisions as regards its own Members is the power of expelling an offender from Membership, and as this power, as regards Members in the United Kingdom at least, is vested absolutely in the Central Council, every decision must in the last resort be enforced by an appeal to the Central Council.

2. On the other hand, it is recognized that questions of fact should be investigated in the first instance on the spot, and that for this purpose the Division furnishes the most convenient instrument available for the Association.

3. In many instances also the Division is quite competent to deal with the case entirely.

4. In a Division, while the Ethical Committee thereof may conveniently make the first investigation and report as to the facts, the finding of the Division must be that of a general meeting of the whole Division, to which the Committee reports.

5. In a Branch, on the other hand, by hypothesis a general meeting cannot be representative of the whole Branch, and, therefore, in the Model Rules which have been suggested by the Committee, the decision of ethical matters as regards a Branch rests with the Branch Council, acting upon a report furnished by the Ethical Committee of the Branch.

6. A dispute or complaint would in general come in the first instance before the Ethical Committee of a Division, who report upon the facts to a general meeting of the Division. The Division in pronouncing judgement may either (*a*) endeavour to decide the matter, or (*b*) may postpone decision pending an application to the Central Ethical Committee for advice on a question of principle, or (*c*) may report to the Branch Council that the matter is one that in their judgement should be brought before the Central Council under Article XLIV.

In case of decision by a Division it is open to either party to appeal to the Branch, which means, as explained, the Branch Council.

Thus a matter may come before a Branch Council (*a*) on appeal from the decision of a Division, or (*b*) on a Report by a Division that a matter should be brought before the Central Council under Article XLIV.

A matter may come to the Central Ethical Committee, either (*a*) on an appeal from the decision of a Branch Council, or (*b*) on an application from a Division for advice on a question of principle, or (*c*) in consequence of representations having been made by a Branch Council to the Central Council under Article XLIV.

A matter may also come before the Central Ethical Committee on a direct appeal from the parties to a case asking that it should adjudicate, but if there is a dispute as to facts the Committee refers it to the Division for preliminary investigation.

MEDICAL DEFENCE COMMITTEE.

April 1st, 1905.

A MEETING of the Medical Defence Committee of the British Medical Association was held at the offices of the Association on Thursday, March 23rd, when there were present: Mr. Andrew Clark (Chairman of Council), in the chair; Sir Victor Horsley, F.R.S. (Chairman of Representative Meetings), Dr. M. Beverley, Dr. Bruce Goff, Dr. J. H. Hunter, Dr. G. Balfour Marshall, and Mr. M. A. Messiter.

A resolution was adopted directing that the memorandum, together with the scheme of medical defence, be forwarded to the Divisions. This was published in the SUPPLEMENT of April 1st, p. 129.

ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE.

April 11th, 1905.

A MEETING of the Organization Committee was held at the office of the Association on April 11th, 1905, when there were present: Mr. T. JENNER VERRALL in the chair, Mr. Andrew Clark, Chairman of Council, Mr. H. A. Ballance, Professor J. T. J. Morrison, and Dr. E. Rayner.

LETTERS OF APOLOGY.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Dr. James Hamilton and Professor A. H. White.

MEETINGS ATTENDED BY THE MEDICAL SECRETARY.

The MEDICAL SECRETARY's report as to meetings which he had attended was received and approved.

DIVISION RULES.

The Council was recommended to approve Rules submitted by the North Manchester and South Suffolk Divisions.

CHANGES OF BOUNDARIES.

It was resolved that Tadley be transferred from the Winchester Division of the Southern Branch to the Reading Division of the Oxford and Reading Branch if no objection be received from the Winchester Division.

Consideration of certain other proposals was deferred pending receipt of further information.

CONSTITUENCIES FOR REPRESENTATIVE MEETINGS FOR 1905-6.

It was recommended to the Council that the following be provisionally approved as the list of constituencies for election of Representatives in Representative Meetings for the year 1905-6, and that, after the publication of the official list of members in May, the Organization Committee be authorized to make such changes in the list as may be found necessary to provide for the grouping of Divisions which shall appear in that list to have fewer than fifty members, or for the independent representation of Divisions which shall appear in that list to have more than fifty members:

(*a*) CONSTITUENCIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

ABERDEEN:—
- Aberdeen.
- Orkney.
- Shetland.

BATH AND BRISTOL:—
- Bath.
- Trowbridge.
- Bristol.

BIRMINGHAM:—
- Bromsgrove.
- Dudley.
- Central Birmingham.
- Coventry.
- Nuneaton and Tamworth.
- Warwick and Leamington.
- West Bromwich.

BORDER COUNTIES:—
- North Cumberland.
- West Cumberland.
- Scottish.

CAMBRIDGE AND HUNTINGDON.

CONNAUGHT:—
- * Mid Connaught.
- North Connaught.
- South Connaught.

DORSET AND WEST HANTS:—
- Bournemouth.
- West Dorset.

DUNDEE.

EAST ANGLIAN:—
- North-East Essex.
- Mid Norfolk.
- Mid Essex.
- South Essex.
- Norwich.
- West Norfolk.
- East Norfolk.
- North Suffolk.
- South Suffolk.
- West Suffolk.

EAST YORK AND NORTH LINCOLN:—
- East York.
- North Lincoln.

EDINBURGH:—
- Lothians.
- North-East Edinburgh.
- North-West Edinburgh.
- South-East Counties.
- South Edinburgh.

FIFE.

GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND:—
- Ayrshire.
- Dumbartonshire and Argyllshire.
- Glasgow, Central.
- Glasgow East.
- Glasgow North-West.
- Glasgow South.
- Lanarkshire.
- Renfrewshire.

* Grouped with the Enniskillen group (Ulster Branch) to form one constituency.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE:—
Altrincham.
Ashton-under-Lyne.
Glossop.
Birkenhead.
Blackburn.
Burnley.
Blackpool.
Isle of Man.
Bolton.
Chester.
Crewe.
Bury.
Rochdale.
Leigh.
Wigan.
Liverpool (Bootle).
Liverpool (Central).
Liverpool (Northern).
Liverpool (Southern).
Liverpool (Western).
Manchester (Central).
Manchester (North).
Manchester (Salford).
Manchester (South).
Manchester (West).
Oldham.
Preston.
Southport.
Stockport, Macclesfield, and East Cheshire.
St. Helens.
Warrington.

LEINSTER:—
Dublin.
East Leinster.
Mid Leinster.
North Leinster.
North-West Leinster.
South-East Leinster.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES:—
Chelsea.
City.
Ealing.
Hampstead.
Kensington.
Lambeth.
Marylebone.
Richmond.
St. Pancras.
Stratford.
Tottenham.
Walthamstow.
Wandsworth.
Watford.
Westminster.

MIDLAND:—
Boston and Spalding.
Lincoln.
Stamford.
Derby.
Leicester.
Nottingham.

MUNSTER:—
North Munster.
West Munster.
South Munster.

NORTHERN COUNTIES OF SCOTLAND.

NORTH OF ENGLAND:—
North Northumberland.
Morpeth.
Blyth.
Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Hexham.
Tyneside.
South Shields.

NORTH OF ENGLAND (*Continued*).
Sunderland.
Gateshead.
Consett.
Chester-le-Street.
Bishop Auckland.
Durham.
Stockton.
Darlington.
Hartlepools.
Cleveland.

NORTH LANCASHIRE AND SOUTH WESTMORLAND:—
Furness.
Kendal.
Lancaster.

NORTH WALES:—
Denbigh and Flint.
North Carnarvon and Anglesey.
South Carnarvon and Merioneth.

OXFORD AND READING:—
Maidenhead.
Reading.
Oxford.

PERTH.

SOUTH-EASTERN:—
Ashford.
Dover.
Folkestone.
Brighton.
Bromley.
Sevenoaks.
Canterbury and Faversham.
Isle of Thanet.
Chichester and Worthing.
Horsham.
Croydon.
Dartford.
Eastbourne.
Hastings.
Guildford.
Maidstone.
Rochester and Chatham.
Reigate.
Norwood.
Tunbridge Wells.

SOUTH-EASTERN IRELAND:—
Carlow.
Kilkenny.
Waterford.

SHROPSHIRE AND MID WALES.

SOUTHERN:—
Guernsey and Alderney.
Jersey.
Southampton.
Isle of Wight.
Portsmouth.
Salisbury.
Winchester.

SOUTH MIDLAND:—
Aylesbury.
Bedford and Herts.
Northampton.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTH:—
Cardiff.
Monmouth.
North Glamorgan and Brecknock.
South-West Wales.
Swansea.

SOUTH-WESTERN:—
Barnstaple.
Exeter.
Devonport.
Torquay.
Plymouth.
Truro

STAFFORDSHIRE:—
Mid Staffordshire.
North Staffordshire.
South Staffordshire.

STIRLING.

ULSTER:—
Ballymoney, North Antrim, and South Derry.
Derry.
* Enniskillen or County Fermanagh.
Monaghan and Cavan.
Omagh or County Tyrone.

ULSTER (*Continued*).
Belfast.
Portadown and West Down.

WEST SOMERSET.

WORCESTER AND HEREFORD:—
Hereford.
Worcester.

YORKSHIRE:—
Bradford.
Halifax.
Huddersfield.
Harrogate.
Leeds.
Sheffield.
Scarborough.
York.
Wakefield and Doncaster.

(*b*) CONSTITUENCIES NOT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Sydney and New South Wales.
Melbourne and Victoria.
Brisbane and Queensland.
New Zealand.
Toronto.
Montreal (independent if having 50 members by May, if not, grouped with the 2 following—)
Manitoba and West of Canada.
District of British Columbia.
Halifax and Nova Scotia.
Bermuda.
Adelaide and South Australia.
Western Australia.
Jamaica.
Barbados.
Leeward Islands.
Trinidad and Tobago.
British Guiana.
Bombay.
District of Punjab.
Bengal.
Burmah.
South India and Madras.
Colombo and Ceylon.
Malaya.
Hong Kong and China.
Cape of Good Hope (West.).
Cape of Good Hope (East.).
Griqualand West (including Orange River Colony and Transvaal).
Natal.
Malta and Mediterranean.
Gibraltar.

GROUPING OF BRANCHES FOR ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL FOR 1905-6.

I. As regards the grouping of *Branches in the United Kingdom*, the Council was recommended to grant independent representation to the Branches in the list (A), and to group the Branches in the list (B), each Branch or group of Branches electing† the number of members stated in the list.

LIST (A).

Aberdeen	1
Bath and Bristol	2
Birmingham	2
East Anglian	2
Glasgow and West of Scotland... ...	2
Lancashire and Cheshire	4
Metropolitan Counties	5
Midland	2
‡Munster	1
North of England	2
‡Northern Counties of Scotland ...	1
Oxford and Reading	1
South-Eastern	3
Southern	2

* Grouped with the Divisions of Connaught to form one Constituency.

† The number of members of Council to be elected by each Branch or group of Branches is determined automatically under By-law 23 by the membership of the Branch or group of Branches. The figures stated in the lists are based upon the membership of each Branch or group of Branches at the time when the recommendation was made, and are subject to such modification as may be necessitated by changes in the number of members shown by the Annual List made up to April 29th.

‡ Branches having fewer than 200 members.

LIST (A)—*(Continued).*

South Midland	1
South Wales	2
South-Western	2
Staffordshire	1
Yorkshire	2

LIST (B).

Border Counties	1
North Lancashire and South Westmorland	
Gloucestershire	1
Worcester and Hereford	
Dorset and West Hants	1
West Somerset	
Cambridge and Huntingdon ...	1
East York and North Lincoln ...	
North Wales	1
Shropshire and Mid Wales... ...	
Dundee	1
Perth	
Stirling	
Fife	2
Edinburgh	
Leinster	2
South-East Ireland	
Connaught	2
Ulster...	

II. With reference to *Branches not in the United Kingdom*, the following lists were similarly recommended for approval—(A) for independent representation, (B) for grouping:

LIST (A).

	Members of Council.
Sydney and New South Wales	2
Melbourne and Victoria	1
Brisbane and Queensland	1
New Zealand	1

LIST (B).

AUSTRALIA:	
Adelaide and South Australia	1
Western Australia	
CANADA:	
Montreal	1
Halifax and Nova Scotia	
Bermuda	
Toronto	1
Manitoba and West of Canada... ...	
District of British Columbia	
FAR EAST:	
Malaya	1
Hong Kong and China...	
INDIA:	
Bombay	1
District of Punjab	
Bengal (no Branch)	
Burmah	
South India and Madras	1
Colombo and Ceylon	
MEDITERRANEAN:	
Malta and Mediterranean	1
Gibraltar	
SOUTH AFRICA:	
Cape of Good Hope (Western)	1
Cape of Good Hope (Eastern)	
Griqualand West	1
Orange River Colony and Transvaal ...	
Natal	
WEST INDIES:	
Barbadoes	1
Jamaica	
Trinidad and Tobago	
Leeward Islands	
British Guiana	

PRINCIPLE ADOPTED IN GROUPING COLONIAL BRANCHES.

In connexion with the representation of the Colonial Branches the Committee resolved to report to the Council that in preparing their recommendations they had been guided by a resolution of the Joint Colonial Constitution Committee to the effect that in the opinion of that Committee the Colonial Branches should be represented on the Council on the same numerical basis as the Branches in the United Kingdom. In applying this principle to the Colonial Branches the Organization Committee had had regard also to topographical considerations, as affecting the possibility of communication with other Branches, and therefore recommended the Council in several instances to approve the grant of independent representation to Branches or groups of Branches having fewer than 200 members.

QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERS OF COUNCIL ELECTED BY COLONIAL BRANCHES.

In connexion with the same matter the Committee reported to the Council that, in their opinion, it is desirable that Branches not in the United Kingdom should frame, under By-law 27, Rules providing that qualifications for representation on the Central Council shall include personal knowledge of the requirements of such Branches, and also recommended that the Council should propose to the Representative Meeting the amendment of By-law 27 by adding at the end thereof the following words: "and if no such Rule shall be adopted the regulations as to eligibility shall be the same as for the Branches in the United Kingdom."

PROPOSED REDUCTION OF LIMIT OF MEMBERSHIP OF DIVISIONS FOR INDEPENDENT REPRESENTATION IN REPRESENTATIVE MEETINGS.

The Committee proceeded to consider the following resolution of the Council:

That recommendation (*c*) be referred back to the Organization Committee, with instruction to consider the question of area as well as of number.

RECOMMENDATION (*c*).

That the Council be advised to propose that the limit for a separate constituency to elect a Representative under Article XXVII be reduced to 30.

The Committee had before it particulars of the areas and o the grouping of Divisions in the United Kingdom, and also replies from the Honorary Secretaries of grouped Divisions to certain inquiries which had been addressed to them by the Medical Secretary by instruction of the Chairman of the Committee. It was resolved to recommend that an alteration of Article XXVII be proposed by the Council which shall have the effect of giving to the Council a discretionary power to give separate representation to Divisions below 50 which have special difficulties in holding joint meetings with neighbouring Divisions, but that the foregoing proposal should first be submitted to the Divisions with a view to a vote thereon in the Representative Meeting, notice being given that the Council would propose the alteration of Article XXVII, as stated, if approved by the Representative Meeting.

DIVISION AND BRANCH FINANCE.

On consideration of a letter from the New Zealand Branch, transmitting the following resolution of a meeting of the Council of the Branch,

That the authorities in London be asked if a portion of the profits of the British Medical Association could not be set aside to assist the various Branches whose expenses are increasing annually,

It was resolved that the Council be recommended to instruct a Committee to investigate and report on the working of the present system of Division and Branch income and expenditure.

CIRCULATION OF REPRINTED ADDRESSES TO NON-MEMBERS.

The Committee considered a suggestion from a Division that addresses such as that by Dr. Carter, which appeared in the SUPPLEMENT of the JOURNAL of November 5th, 1904, could with advantage be reprinted and distributed amongst those practitioners who were not members of the Association, and the Committee resolved that in their opinion it is advisable periodically to republish for distribution among the non-members of the Association suitable articles which may appear in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL or in the SUPPLEMENT, having reference to the work of the Association.

SUGGESTED PAYMENT BY DIVISIONS OF ELECTION EXPENSES OF CANDIDATES FOR THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Committee also considered an inquiry from a Division as to the legality of the payment by the Division of certain expenses in connexion with the promotion of the candidature of a member of the Division for election by the Branch to the Central Council, and the following reply was ordered to be sent:

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

Medical Secretary's Office,
429, Strand, W.C.

DEAR SIR,

The question raised by your letter has been referred to the Organization Committee, and I have been instructed to obtain the opinion of the Solicitor of the Association thereon.

I am instructed to state that having regard to the terms of By-law 17 the question you submit is one for the Branch Council to decide.

Under that By-law the Branch is required to pay to each Division of the Branch such sum per Member as the Branch Council may consider necessary to defray the expenses of the Division.

It would, therefore, be for the Branch Council to consider whether expenditure incurred in promoting the candidature of a Member of a Division for election to the Central Council of the Association is a necessary expense of the Division. The question of legality under the regulations of the Association only arises as touching the question whether it is lawful for the Branch Council to make any payment to the Division in respect of the expenditure under consideration.

I am,
Yours faithfully,

Medical Secretary.

ALTERATION OF ARTICLE XXXVIII.

It was decided to recommend the Council to propose the following alteration of Article XXXVIII, namely, that the words "if any" be deleted, and that after the words "Chairman of Representative Meetings" the words "Chairman of Council" be inserted.

Meetings of Branches and Divisions.

[*The proceedings of the Divisions and Branches of the Association relating to Scientific and Clinical Medicine, when reported by the Honorary Secretaries, are published in the body of the* JOURNAL.]

GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND BRANCH:

EASTERN DIVISION.

A MEETING of the Division was held on March 29th in the Religious Institution Rooms, 200, Buchanan Street, Glasgow, Dr. WILLIAM WHITELAW of Kirkintilloch (President), in the chair.

Confirmation of Minutes.—The minutes of the annual meeting held on June 1st, 1904, were read, approved, and signed by the Chairman.

Contract Medical Practice.—The SECRETARY read a communication from the Local Committee on Contract Medical Practice containing resolutions passed at the general meeting of practitioners in Glasgow on May 11th, 1904, and asking for powers to proceed with the inquiry. After some discussion, in which it was pointed out that a local inquiry was useless in view of the larger scope of the inquiry by the British Medical Association, it was agreed that the two representatives of this Division be reappointed, Drs. Service and Thomas Russell, and that the necessary powers asked for be granted.

The Medical Register.—The SECRETARY read a letter from the Bradford Division containing a resolution pointing out the present unsatisfactory state of the official *Medical Register*. It was agreed that the terms of the resolution be accepted with a view to future action.

Matters Referred to Divisions.—The matters referred to the Divisions by the Medico-Political Committee were then debated: (1) Resolutions on contract medical practice as contained in SUPPLEMENT for November 26th, 1904. These propositions were accepted with the following alterations: No. (5), instead of "children under the age of 5 should not be admitted," read "children under the age of 14. . . ." No. (7) is altered to read, "The rates above specified are not intended to apply to obstetric cases, operations, or serious accidents"; that is, omitting "night visits" after "apply to," and omitting also any definition of "serious accidents." (2) The desirability of consultation between medical witnesses in legal cases likely to be brought before the courts. The Division decided to adhere to its finding of last meeting in this matter—namely, that the proposition is impracticable and not to be recommended to the profession. (3) The position of practitioners in the matter of furnishing certain information to coroners. The four propositions were accepted with this addition: that wherever the word "Coroner" occurs the words "or in Scotland, the Procurator-Fiscal" be added. (4) Reorganization of the Local Government Board. As this matter applies to England and Wales only it was decided that it was at present outside the knowledge and interest of the Division, and not to be discussed. (5) Medical Acts Amendment Bill. The Division considered that the following changes should still be made: Part II, Par. 6, relating to pensions of officers of the Council, to be deleted. It was considered that officers of the Council should receive adequate salaries, and look to themselves for their pensions. Part III, Par. 11, regulations for annual registration; Clause 1, instead of the words "together with a fee of one pound" read "together with the annual fee," and add a new clause 1*a*, "The annual fee shall be, to begin with, five shillings, to rise as funds are required, but not at any time to exceed one pound per annum." Part V, Par. 22, the Division considers the provisions of Clause 5 to be unfair, namely, that the costs of any inquiry may be borne by the person whose name is in question or by any complainant. The Division recommends that "all costs be paid out of the general funds of the Council." Part V, Par. 23, in Clause 2 the words "or suggesting" to be added after the word "implying." Part V, Par. 27, Clause 2 to be deleted as an unworkable arrangement.

NORTH LANCASHIRE AND SOUTH WESTMORLAND BRANCH:

FURNESS DIVISION.

A GENERAL meeting of this Division was held in the Masonic Hall, Barrow-in-Furness, on Friday, March 24th, at 3.15 p.m., Dr. CROSS in the chair.

Confirmation of Minutes.—The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Matters Referred to Divisions.—The SECRETARY read the report of the subcommittee appointed at the previous meeting to consider these matters. The various matters were discussed and voted upon seriatim. (1) Interim report on contract practice: The subcommittee is in favour of the principle of a public provident medical service, and considers that it would be desirable in all parts of the kingdom. Pending, however, such a consummation, the members of the British Medical Association resident in the Furness district have drawn up an agreement regulating contract practice, and anticipate that it will be signed by all practitioners in the district. The subcommittee recommends that the propositions put forward by the Medico-Political Committee be approved, with the suggestion that an addition to Clause 6 be made adopting a wage limit. The report of the subcommittee on contract practice was approved and adopted *nem. con.* (2) Consultation of medical witnesses in legal cases: This matter was discussed and reported on by the Division in 1903, when a decision adverse to the proposals of the Medico-Political Committee was arrived at; but after further discussion and consideration of the memorandum put forward by that Committee, the subcommittee recommends that the Division should approve of the consultation of medical witnesses only as to matters of fact, and not as to any conclusions that may be based thereon. Report approved, and adopted *nem. con.* (3) Information supplied to coroners by medical practitioners: The subcommittee suggests that a deputation be appointed by the Division to meet and confer with the coroners in the district with a view to ascertain their opinion as to whether an arrangement can be made locally to obtain remuneration for informal information hitherto supplied gratis, and that the deputation report to a subsequent meeting of the Division. After some discussion, the following gentlemen were proposed and appointed to act, as recommended by the subcommittee—namely, Dr. Collins (President of Branch), Dr. Patterson (County M.O.H.), and Dr. Daniel (Honorary Secretary).

(4) Reorganization of Local Government Board: "The Subcommittee recommends that the Division approve of the proposals of the Medico-Political Committee *in toto*." The report was approved and adopted. (5) Medical Act Amendment Bill: The subcommittee has gone carefully through the Draft of the Bill clause by clause, and is of opinion that it is a better worded and altogether more business-like document than that previously submitted for their consideration, and with the following exceptions, recommend that the Division report favourably to the Bill: Part I, Clause 1. The subcommittee does not approve of the constitution of the General Medical Council. It is felt that in the representation of educational bodies, undue prominence is given to "degree-giving" as distinguished from "diploma-giving" bodies, in view of the fact that diplomates greatly outnumber graduates. It is recommended that the grouping of universities as advocated in the first draft of the Bill is preferable to its present form. The subcommittee calls attention to the fact that while statutory provision is made for the election of a Vice-President, there is no mention of the election of a President or Registrar. Part III, Clause 1. Annual registration fee of one pound. The subcommittee adheres to the opinion expressed in the criticism of the 1903 draft, "that the registration fee should not be obligatory except to medical men qualifying after the passing of the Bill," and offers this comment: "That on qualifying each medical man entered into a contract with the State, on payment of a fee of £5, to be entitled to practise the profession of medicine, surgery, etc., during the term of his natural life; and further, the subcommittee feels that the profession has suffered so much in the past from an inefficient General Medical Council that it has not a sufficient guarantee that it will have an adequate return for the annual registration fee." After discussion the report was adopted. (6) Prevention of abuse of drugs: "The subcommittee recommends the approval of the proposals of the Medico-Political Committee." Report approved and adopted. (7) Payment of practitioners called in to assist midwives: This matter was fully discussed, and the replies to the questions submitted have been communicated to the Medico-Political Committee. (8) Public Health Bill and (9) Revaccination Bill: "The subcommittee recommends that a deputation be appointed to wait upon parliamentary members and candidates to enlist their support to these measures as well as to the Local Government Board Bill." It was proposed and carried that the deputation appointed to wait upon the coroners should also be instructed to interview the parliamentary candidates and members. (10) The relation of the medical profession to ambulance work: "The subcommittee is of opinion that ambulance work should be put upon a business basis, and considers that neither (*a*) ambulance instruction, (*b*) ambulance examinations, nor (*c*) judging in ambulance competitions, should be treated as matters of philanthropy. It is recommended, however, that financial arrangements should be left to individual instructors." The first part of the report was approved and adopted, and it was proposed by Dr. ANDERSON and carried:

> That the scale of fees should not be less than those paid to technical instructors.

This ended the report of subcommittee. (11) Death registration, and amendment of coroners' law. It was proposed by Dr. BOOTH and carried:

> That the same subcommittee that considered the other matters referred to Divisions should consider these matters and report to a subsequent meeting.

(12) School Certificates. The Honorary Secretary was requested to write to the educational authority, pointing out the objections of the medical profession to certain recently-issued certificate forms.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH:
LIVERPOOL WESTERN DIVISION.

A MEETING of this Division was held at the Liverpool Medical Institution on April 28th, Mr. F. C. LARKIN in the chair.

Matters Referred to Divisions.—(1) Report on prevention of the abuse of drugs (see SUPPLEMENT to the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, November 26th, 1904, p. 191). The Division is strongly of opinion that the unduly repeated dispensing of prescriptions is not likely to be prevented by anything short of prohibitive legislation, but the Division sees no harm in the recommendations suggested. (2) The memorandum on the payment of medical practitioners called in to assist midwives was considered and the resolutions passed have been communicated to the Medico-Political Committee. (3) National Deposit Friendly Society: The recommendations of the Medico-Political Committee were agreed to. (4) The relations of the medical profession to ambulance work: Question 1.—None of the services (*a*), (*b*), or (*c*), should be treated as a matter of philanthropy. Question 2.—Fees: (*a*) Ambulance instruction—£1 1s. per head per course; (*b*) Ambulance examination—2s. 6d. per head; (*c*) Ambulance competition—£1 1s. to £2 2s.

NOTICE OF CHANGE OF BOUNDARIES OF DIVISION AND BRANCHES.

THE following change has been made in accordance with the regulations of the Association, and takes effect from the date of publication of this notice:

That Tadley be transferred from the Winchester Division of the Southern Branch to the Reading Division of the Oxford and Reading Branch.

MEETING OF BRANCH AND DIVISION SECRETARIES AT LEICESTER, JULY 25, 1905.

THE Council of the British Medical Association has sanctioned a conference of the Branch and Division Secretaries to be held on the Tuesday of the Annual Meeting week—namely, July 25th—at 6 p.m., in a room to be set apart for the purpose.

Branch and Division Secretaries are invited to notify any subjects they may wish to bring before this conference. All matters to be considered must be notified to the General Secretary of the Association, 429, Strand, W.C., on or before June 15th.

The General Secretary will as early as possible after June 15th circulate to the Branch and Division Secretaries a list of the subjects notified him for discussion by the conference.

Association Notices.

COUNCIL MEETING.

A SPECIAL Meeting of the Council will be held at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of Wednesday, May 17th, in the Board Room of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, by kind permission of the Board. The offices of the Metropolitan Asylums Board are situate on the Victoria Embankment at the corner of Carmelite Street, and near Blackfriars Bridge.

April 27th, 1905. GUY ELLISTON, *General Secretary.*

BRANCH AND DIVISION MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH: TROWBRIDGE DIVISION.—The annual meeting of this Division will be held at Trowbridge on Tuesday, May 30th. Hour and place of meeting will be announced at a later date. Business: (1) Such as is laid down in Rule 11. (2) Matters referred from Central Association.—J. TUBB-THOMAS, The Halve, Trowbridge, Wilts, Honorary Secretary.

BIRMINGHAM BRANCH.—The annual meeting of this Branch will be held in the Medical Institute, Birmingham, on Thursday, June 8th, at 3.30 o'clock. Nominations for offices (under Rule 4) must be received not later than the first post on May 18th by the Honorary Secretary, Dr. T. SYDNEY SHORT, 35, Newhall Street, Birmingham.

BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH: NORTH CUMBERLAND DIVISION.—The annual general meeting of this Division will be held on Friday, May 26th, at 3.30 p.m., in the County Hotel, Carlisle. Dr. Maclaren (Carlisle) will read a paper on the Relations of Medical Men to Public Bodies; and Dr. Bird (Carlisle) a paper on Some Ethical Points in the Work of a Medical Officer to the Educational Board. The meeting, as last year, will be confined to the discussion of general ethical and medico-ethical subjects. It is also hoped that an exhibition of pathological specimens may be got up. Members desirous of reading papers or showing specimens will kindly communicate with the Honorary Secretary, NORMAN MACLAREN, 23, Portland Square, Carlisle.

BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH: WEST CUMBERLAND DIVISION.—The annual meeting of this Division will be held in Whitehaven on Friday, May 26th. Business: (1) Minutes of last meeting. (2) Receive the annual report. (3) Election of officers, the Representative of the Division on the Branch Council, and the ordinary members of the Executive Committee. (4) To consider a proposed new rule received from the Organization Committee *re* the filling up of vacancies among officers. (5) Papers and cases, etc. (5) General. The Secretary will be glad to receive particulars of papers or cases which any member will be willing to read or show. A further notice will be issued later. After the meeting a dinner will be held.—G. BERTRAM MURIEL, Honorary Secretary, Whitehaven.

DORSET AND WEST HANTS BRANCH.—The annual meeting will be held at Blandford on Wednesday, May 17th. Notice of any communication and case should be sent before May 7th to the Honorary Secretary, C. H. W. PARKINSON.

DORSET AND WEST HANTS AND WEST SOMERSET BRANCHES.—Nominations for elective members of the Central Council must be made in writing on or before May 10th, to C. H. WATTS PARKINSON, Wimborne Minster, Honorary Secretary.

DUNDEE, PERTH AND STIRLING BRANCHES.—The nomination of candidates for the office of elective member of Council for the ensuing year must be made in writing on or before May 8th to Dr. J. E. Moorhouse, 1, Glebe Avenue, Stirling.—A. P. LOW, Secretary Dundee Branch, W. A. TAYLOR, Secretary Perth Branch, J. E. MOORHOUSE, Secretary Stirling Branch.

EAST ANGLIAN BRANCH.—The annual meeting of the East Anglian Branch will be held at Norwich on Thursday, June 29th.

EAST YORK AND NORTH LINCOLN BRANCH (with the CAMBRIDGE AND HUNTINGDON BRANCH).—Nominations for the office of Representative on the Central Council must reach the Honorary Secretary before May 14th. The present Representative, Dr. C. H. Milburn, is eligible for re-election.—E. M. HAINWORTH, Honorary Secretary, East York and North Lincoln Branch.

EDINBURGH AND FIFE BRANCHES.—Notice is hereby given that nominations of elective members of the Council of the Association for these Branches must be made in writing on or before June 3rd, to A. LOGAN TURNER, M.D., 27, Walker Street, Edinburgh, Honorary Secretary Edinburgh Branch.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: HAMPSTEAD DIVISION.—The next meeting of this Division will be held at St. Peter's Lecture Hall, Belsize Square, N.W., on Friday, May 12th, at 5 p.m. Dr. J. Ford Anderson will read a paper on the abuse of hospital out-patient departments and the remedies. Mr. C. S. Loch (Charity Organization Society), Colonel Montefiore, Dr. W. Knowsley Sibley, Dr. J. Schorstein, Dr. E. Rowland Fothergill, and others have promised to take part in the discussion. All medical practitioners and others interested in the subject of hospital abuse will be admitted on sending in their cards to the Honorary Secretary.—H. W. ARMIT, Assistant Honorary Secretary, Wembley.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: WANDSWORTH DIVISION.—The annual meeting will be held at Crichtons, Clapham Junction, on Thursday, May 25th, at 9.30 p.m. Agenda: (1) Minutes, (2) correspondence, (3) questions, (4) additional rules. (5) election of officers and committee of the Division. The meeting will be preceded by the annual dinner at 7 p.m., at which the following guests of the Division will be present: Sir Henry Kimber, Bart., M.P. for Wandsworth; Percy Thornton, Esq., M.P. for Clapham; the Mayor of Wandsworth; Chairman of the Wimbledon District Council; Chairman of the Wandsworth Guardians; J. Hunt, Esq., and Lieutenant-Colonel A. Rotton, J.P., members of the L.C.C.; Mrs. and Miss Garrett Anderson, M.D.; Sir Walter Foster, M.P.; Dr. Michael Taylor, Coroner; Chairman of Central Council; President of the Branch; Drs. A. P. Beddard, George Carpenter, Lauriston Shaw, and R. Hutchison; Shirley Benn, Esq.; the Editor of the JOURNAL; the Medical and General Secretaries; and others. Tickets on application to E. ROWLAND FOTHERGILL, M.B., Honorary Secretary, Southfields, S.W. (Telephone 863 Battersea.)

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: WESTMINSTER DIVISION.—An ordinary meeting will be held on Monday, May 8th, at 8.30 p.m., at 20, Hanover Square, Mr. J. Bland-Sutton in the chair. Smoking. Agenda: (1) Minutes. (2) Correspondence. (3) Questions. (4) Delegates' report of conference *re* selection of candidates for nomination by this Division for the Central Council election. (5) Dr. David Walsh will move a resolution *re* medical qualifications and hospital appointments. (6) Consideration of Medical Acts Amendment Bill. Mr. Horace Manders will move, under Clause 28: Section (1). Privileges of Registration. No person, except a registered medical practitioner, shall, save in this Act mentioned and in the Midwives Act, practise the treatment of disease by medicine, surgery, electricity, or midwifery, habitually and for gain, in the United Kingdom, and (subject to any local law) in any other part of His Majesty's dominions. Section (2). No person, except a registered medical practitioner, shall be entitled to recover in due course of law any fees or expenses he may claim for advice or treatment given in the course of his practice in medicine, surgery, electricity, and midwifery, save as provided for in the Midwives Act. (7) To consider: (i) Memorandum on the Public Health Bill of the Association; (ii) Memorandum on proposals of the Association with respect to the reorganization of the Local Government Board. (8) Any other business.—W. KNOWSLEY SIBLEY, M.D., Honorary Secretary, 70, Duke Street, Grosvenor Square, W.

MIDLAND BRANCH.—The last day for sending in nominations for the two members of the Central Council to which this Branch is entitled is May 8th. They should be sent to the Acting Honorary Secretary, Dr. FRANK POPE, 4, Prebend St., Leicester.

NORTH WALES BRANCH: SOUTH CARNARVON AND MERIONETH DIVISION.—The annual meeting will be held at Dolgelly on May 31st, when the election of officers, etc., for the ensuing year will be proceeded with. Dr. Hugh Jones will open a discussion on the treatment of pneumonia.—W. JONES MORRIS, Portmadoc, Honorary Secretary.

NORTH WALES AND SHROPSHIRE BRANCHES.—As these two Branches are grouped for the election of a member on the Central Council of the Association, nominations in accordance with By-law 24 will be received by either the undersigned not later than May 22nd.—W. JONES MORRIS, Portmadoc; H. JONES ROBERTS, Penygroes; H. H. B. MACLEOD, Clive House, Shrewsbury.

SHROPSHIRE AND MID-WALES BRANCH.—The spring meeting will be held at the Salop Infirmary on Tuesday, May 16th, at 3 o'clock. Members who wish to bring forward any business, to read papers, to show cases or specimens, are requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretary not later than Saturday, May 6th.—HAROLD B. MACLEOD, Honorary Secretary, College Hill, Shrewsbury.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH.—The annual meeting of this Branch will be held at Canterbury on Wednesday, June 21st, Dr. Whitehead Reid, President-elect, in the chair. The following will be the agenda: (1) To elect the officers of the Branch. [This will be done by voting papers sent to each member of the Branch. Nomination by three members for the offices of President-elect, Vice-Presidents, and Secretary may be sent to the Honorary Secretary on or before May 13th.] (2) To receive the annual report of the Branch Council. (3) To consider the business of the Annual Representative Meeting. (4) Mr. J. H. Ewart will move "That Honorary Secretaries of Divisions be *ex-officio* members of the Branch Council." (5) To transact any business that may be transacted by an ordinary meeting. N.B.—Three members to represent the Branch on the Central Council will also be elected by voting papers. Nominations for these posts, each by three members in writing, may be sent to the Honorary Secretary of the Branch on or before Saturday, May 13th.—H. M. STEWART, Walton House, Lordship Lane, S.E., Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: BRIGHTON DIVISION.—A meeting will be held at the Dispensary, 113, Queen's Road, Brighton, at 4.30 p.m., on the fourth Wednesday in May (24th), June (28th), annual meeting, October (25th), November (22nd). Members wishing to read papers or show cases at the meetings are requested to give at least a fortnight's notice to the Honorary Secretary, RYDING MARSH, M.D., 49, Sackville Road, Hove.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: CROYDON DIVISION.—The next meeting will be held at the Croydon General Hospital on Thursday, May 18th, at 4 p.m., Dr. J. Wayte in the chair. Dinner at Greyhound Hotel, 6.15 p.m.; charge 5s., exclusive of wine. Agenda: (1) Minutes of the previous meeting; (2) to decide when and where the next meeting shall take place, and to elect a chairman; (3) election of officers for the ensuing year; (4) clinical meeting. Gentlemen willing to exhibit cases are requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretary not later than May 13th. Details will be announced subsequently. All members of the South-Eastern Branch are entitled to attend and introduce professional friends. Tea at four o'clock by kind invitation of Dr. Wayte. The Honorary Secretary would be much obliged if members would kindly inform him by post-card whether they intend, if possible, to be present at the meeting, and if likely to remain to dinner. By so doing they will very materially facilitate arrangements, and promote the success of the meeting.—E. H. WILLOCK, 113, London Road, Croydon, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: FOLKESTONE DIVISION.—A meeting of the Division will be held at Hotel Wampach on Thursday, May 11th, at 8.30 p.m. Agenda for general meeting: (1) Minutes. (2) Correspondence. (3) Reference from Medico-Political Committee referring to: (*a*) Consultation between medical witnesses (see SUPPLEMENT to the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, November 26th, 1904); (*b*) information supplied to coroners by medical practitioners (see SUPPLEMENT, March 11th, 1905); (*c*) reorganization of the Local Government Board; (*d*) ambulance work (SUPPLEMENT, February 4th, 1505); (*e*) abuse of drugs; (*f*) payment of medical practitioners called in to assist midwives. From Ethical Committee—Advertising by hydropathic establishments, February 18th, 1905; National Deposit Friendly Society (see SUPPLEMENT, January 14th, 1905). The annual meeting will be held at Hotel Wampach on Tuesday, May 30th, at 7 p.m. Agenda for annual meeting: (1) To elect officers, the Representative of the Division on the Branch Council, and the ordinary members of the Executive Committee. (2) To receive the annual report of the Executive Committee, including the finance. (3) To make new rules or alter or repeal existing rules. (4) To transact any business that may be transacted at an ordinary meeting. A meeting of the Folkestone, Dover, and Ashford constituency will be held the same day, at the same place, at 7.30. Dinner afterwards, at 8.30; charge 5s. Agenda for the Constituency: (1) To elect Representative in Representative Meetings of the Association. (2) To elect a Secretary. (3) To consider the business of the Annual Representative Meeting. All members of the South Eastern Branch are invited to attend these meetings and to introduce professional friends.—P. VERNON DODD, Honorary Secretary, Folkestone.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: NORWOOD DIVISION.—A clinical meeting will be held on Thursday, May 11th, at 4 p.m., at St. John's Hospital, Morden Hill, Lewisham, Mr. L. Stokes (Blackheath) in the chair. The staff have kindly promised to show cases. Agenda: (1) Minutes of last meeting; (2) to decide when and where the next meeting shall be held, and to nominate a member of the Division to take the chair thereat; (3) consideration of various resolutions to be brought forward at Annual Representative Meeting at Leicester (see SUPPLEMENTS of BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL). Members desirous of exhibiting cases are requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretary at once.—HENRY J. PRANGLEY, Honorary Secretary; ARTHUR W. SOPER, Assistant Honorary Secretary, Tudor House, Anerley, S.E.

SOUTH-EASTERN OF IRELAND BRANCH.—The annual meeting will be he at Kilkenny on May 24th.—E. J. FARMER, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: REIGATE DIVISION.—A special meeting will be held at Laker's Hotel, Redhill, on Friday, May 19th, at 6 p.m., H. J. Blackler, M.B.Lond., etc., of Redhill, in the chair. Agenda: To elect a Representative of the Division for the Annual Meeting of the Association. An address will be given by Dr. J. H. Bryant, Assistant Physician to Guy's Hospital, on Electro-therapeutics. Clinical cases will be shown by Drs. J. H. Pegg, A. R. Walters, and W. A. Berridge. A Short Note on an Unusual Case of Femoral Hernia by Dr. F. Curtis, F.R.C.S Eng. Dinner at 7.30 p.m.; charge 5s. (exclusive of wine). The Honorary Secretary will be much obliged if members will kindly inform him whether they intend, if possible, to be present at the meeting, and if they are likely to remain to dinner.—W. A. BERRIDGE, Honorary Secretary, Station Road, Redhill.

SOUTHERN BRANCH: SALISBURY DIVISION.—The annual meeting of the Division will be held on Wednesday, May 17th, at the Infirmary, Salisbury, at 8.15 p.m., to be preceded by dinner at the County Hotel, at 7 p.m. (morning dress). Agenda: (1) Minutes of the last meeting. (2) Election of officers: (a) Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary, Representatives of the Division on the Branch Council, and the ordinary members of the Executive Committee; (b) to elect the representative of the Division in Representative Meetings of the Association: (c) to receive the annual report of the Executive Committee: (3) to make arrangements for the general meeting of the Branch in Salisbury; (4) to discuss and reply on the following matters referred to the Division: (a) National Deposit Friendly Society; (b) ambulance work; (c) advertising in connexion with hydropathic establishments; (d) report on information given to coroners (SUPPLEMENT, November 26th, 1904); (e) consultations between medical witnesses; (f) proposals for preventing the abuse of drugs; (g) statutory provision for payment of medical men called to assist midwives; (h) contract practice and Medical Acts Amendment Bill; (i) death registration and coroners' law. (5) Cases. Members wishing to show any cases or read any papers are desired to communicate with the Honorary Secretary as soon as possible. Members intending to be present at dinner are desired to inform the Honorary Secretary not later than Saturday, May 13th.—J. E. GORDON, Honorary Secretary, 52, Endless Street, Salisbury.

SOUTH-WESTERN BRANCH.—The nomination of candidates for the office of elective members of Council (Branch representatives on the Council of the Association) for the ensuing year must be made by at least three electors, and in writing, on or before May 21st, to the Honorary Secretary of the Branch, Mr. G. YOUNG EALES, 1, Matlock Terrace, Torquay.

SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH.—Notice is hereby given that nominations of members for the office of Representatives on Central Council, each signed by not less than three members, must reach me not later than May 15th. The present Representative, Mr. R. H. Kinsey, is eligible for re-election. —E. HARRIES JONES, Honorary Secretary, Northampton.

STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH.—Nominations of Representative on Central Council: Notice is hereby given that nominations must be sent in to me on or before May 25th.—G. PETGRAVE JOHNSON, Honorary Secretary, Stoke-on-Trent.

STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH.—The third general meeting of the session will be held at the Victoria Hotel, Wolverhampton, on Thursday, May 11th. The President, Dr. E. Deanesly, will take the chair at 3 p.m. Business: (1) Minutes of the last general meeting; (2) Correspondence; (3) Exhibition of living cases. The meeting will be a clinical one. Notice has been received that several cases will be exhibited. Gentlemen having interesting cases are invited to exhibit them. (4) Exhibition of pathological specimens, etc. Dinner, 6.30 p.m.; charge 5s. Council meeting: a meeting of the Council will be held at 2.45 p.m. for election of members, etc. —G. PETGRAVE JOHNSON, Honorary General Secretary, Stoke-on-Trent.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND HEREFORDSHIRE AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE BRANCHES.—Nominations for the office of Representative on the Central Council to be sent on or before May 21st to G. W. CROWE, 43, Foregate Street, Worcester, Honorary Secretary of the Worcestershire and Herefordshire Branch.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

A MEETING of the Central Midwives Board was held on April 27th, at 6, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, with Dr. F. H. CHAMPNEYS in the chair.

THE PRINTING OF THE MIDWIVES ROLL.

A letter was read from Dr. Kaye, County Medical Officer of the West Riding of Yorkshire, forwarding a communication from a Conference of County Medical Officers held at Birmingham on March 10th last, asking the Midwives Board to consider the desirability of including in the Roll of Midwives a column showing the geographical position in which each midwife resided. It was agreed that an answer should be sent stating that the Central Midwives Board had taken note of the suggestion.

APPLIANCES TO BE CARRIED BY MIDWIFE.

The communication from Dr. Kaye included also an inquiry as to the construction of Rule E 2. This rule provides that:

When called to a confinement a midwife must take with her: (a) An appliance for giving enemata, a catheter, a pair of scissors, a clinical thermometer, and a nailbrush; (b) an efficient antiseptic for disinfecting the hands, etc.; (c) an antiseptic for douching in special cases; (d) an antiseptic lubricant for smearing the fingers, catheters, douche nozzles, and enema nozzles before they touch the patient.

Dr. Kaye asked if the Board considered that it was absolutely necessary for the midwives to carry all that was required by Rule E 2.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that the Rule must be carried out, and if the midwives were too ignorant to do so the question would arise whether they should be struck off the roll. After some discussion it was agreed that the answer to be sent to Dr. Kaye was that the Central Midwives Board had no dispensing power.

THE MEANING OF THE WORD "MALPRACTICE."

A letter from Dr. Niven, M.O.H., Manchester, was received, asking the Central Midwives Board what meaning was to be attached to the word "malpractice" in Section 8 (2) of the Act. In Section 8 one of the duties of the local supervising authorities is declared to consist of investigating charges of malpractice on the part of any midwife practising within their area.

The Board decided that the answer to be returned to this question was that each case must be judged on its own merits.

FOUR EXAMINATIONS TO BE HELD EACH YEAR.

Memorials were received from the Committees of the British Lying-In Hospital, the General Lying-In Hospital, York Road, Lambeth, and the City of London Lying-In Hospital representing the desirability of four instead of three examinations being held each year. After some discussion the Board decided that examinations should be held in January, April, July, and October of each year, the first examination, however, was directed to be held on June 27th next, and the date for examination in October next was fixed for the 24th.

POOR-LAW MEDICAL OFFICERS AS INSPECTORS OF MIDWIVES.

A letter was received from the Town Clerk of Ramsgate asking whether in the opinion of the Board the appointment of a Poor-law medical officer as inspector of midwives would be suitable and proper. From what took place at the debate on this letter it appeared that the members of the Central Midwives Board did not consider that it was its business to lay down any rules in such a matter, but that on the whole the Board did not think it advisable that such an appointment should be made.

SUGGESTED ALTERATIONS OF THE RULES.

A letter was received from the Council of the Association of the Poor-law Unions of England and Wales suggesting the reduction from 20 to 7 of the number of cases to be personally delivered as required by Rule C 1 (1), and suggesting the approval by the Central Midwives Board of any Poor-law infirmary as a training institution where the average number of deliveries per annum amounted to 30. The letter was discussed, but no action was decided on.

CHARGES OF NEGLIGENCE AGAINST MIDWIVES.

On the report of Dr. Niven that the local supervising authority of Manchester had found that a prima facie case of negligence had been established against a certain midwife in respect of a case of puerperal fever, the Board decided that the midwife concerned should be cited to appear before the Board.

The Clerk of the London County Council reported that the local supervising authority for the County of London had found that a prima facie case of negligence and misconduct had been established against a certified midwife, and the Board decided that she should be cited to appear.

Dr. W. B. BARCLAY reported that the Local Supervising Authority for Aldershot had found that a prima facie case of negligence and misconduct had been established against a certified midwife in respect of a case of puerperal fever, and the Board decided that she should be cited to appear.

NUMBER OF WOMEN ON THE ROLL.

After consideration of applications for certificates the names of 3,976 women were passed under Section 11 of the Act, and ordered for entry on the roll. The total number on the roll was reported to be 22,207.

Naval and Military Appointments.

ROYAL NAVY MEDICAL SERVICE.

THE undermentioned civil practitioners have been appointed Surgeons and Agents at the stations named: WALTER E. MANBY, M.B., at West Bay and Burton, April 29th; WILLIAM SYKES, M.D., at Paignton, April 29th; ROBERT JAMIESON, M.D., at Lamlash, April 28th; Surgeon ALFRED B. COX, M.B., has been appointed to the *Edgar*, on completing, May 2nd.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL O. E. P. LLOYD, V.C., is promoted to be Colonel, *vice* R. H. Quill, M.B., promoted, April 22nd. His previous commissions are dated: Surgeon, August 4th, 1878; Surgeon-Major, August 4th, 1890; Lieutenant-Colonel, August 4th, 1898. He was in the Zulu war in 1879 with Clark's Column, and in the subsequent operations against Sekukuni including the storming of the stronghold, and was present at the capture of King Cetewayo (medal and clasp). During the Boar war of 1881 he took part in the defence of Standerton. He served in the Kachin Expedition in 1892-3, first as Medical Officer in charge of the North Eastern Column, and afterwards as Senior Medical Officer of the whole force, and was present at the attack on the Sima Post; commanded the Post during the attack after Captain Morton, the Officer Commanding, was killed (mentioned in dispatches, V.C., and medal with clasp); he was awarded the Victoria Cross for his conspicuous bravery under the following circumstances: "During the attack on the Sima Post by Kachins, on January 6th last [1893], Surgeon-Major Lloyd, on hearing that the Commanding Officer, Captain Morton (who had left the fort to visit a picket about 80 yards distant), was wounded, at once ran out to his assistance under a close and heavy fire, accompanied by Subadar Matab Singh. On reaching the wounded officer, Surgeon-Major Lloyd sent Subadar Matab Singh back for further assistance, and remained with Captain Morton till the Subadar returned with five men of the Magwe Battalion of Military Police, when he assisted in carrying Captain Morton back to the fort, where that officer died a few minutes afterwards. The enemy were within ten or fifteen paces keeping up a heavy fire, which killed three men of the picket, and also Bugler Purna Singh. This man accompanied Captain Morton from the fort, showed great gallantry in supporting him in his arms when wounded, and was shot while helping to carry him back to the fort. (The Native Officer and five Sepoys above alluded to have been awarded the Order of Merit.)"

Captain O. CHALLIS resigns his commission, May 3rd. He joined the department as Lieutenant, July 28th, 1899, and was made Captain, December 24th, 1903. He was in the South African war in 1899-1900, and was severely wounded at Rhenoster Kop in November 29th, 1900 (twice mentioned in dispatches, Queen's medal with three clasps).

ARMY MEDICAL STAFF.

SURGEON-GENERAL SIR E. TOWNSEND, M.D., K.C.B., C.M.G., is placed on retired pay, April 22nd. Sir Edmond's commissions are thus dated: Assistant-Surgeon, April 1st, 1867; Surgeon, March 1st, 1873; Surgeon-Major, April 1st, 1879; Brigade-Surgeon, April 1st, 1893; Surgeon-Colonel, January 27th, 1897; and Surgeon-General, September 25th, 1901. His war services are as follow: Abyssinian Expedition, 1867-8, including action of Arrogee (medal); Perak Expedition, 1875-6, actions of January 4th, 14th, and 20th and February 4th, severely wounded (medal with clasp); Zulu War, 1879, battle of Ulundi, taking of the heights above, and capture of Sekukuni's stronghold (mentioned in dispatches, medal with clasp); Egyptian Expedition, 1882, actions at Tel-el-Mahuta, Kassassin of September 9th, and Tel-el-Kebir (medal with clasp, and Khedive's bronze star); Burmese Expedition, 1885-6 (medal with clasp); Ashanti Expedition, 1895-6 (honourably mentioned, star); N.W. Frontier of India, 1897-8, as P.M.O., Mohmand (mentioned in dispatches, medal with clasp); Tirah, 1897-8, as P.M.O., 1st Division, including capture of the Sampagha and Arhanga Passes; operations in the Bazar Valley, December 25th to 30th, 1897 (mentioned in dispatches, C.B., clasp); S. African War, 1899-1900, P.M.O., Infantry Division advance on Kimberley, including actions at Belmont, Enslin, Modder River, and Magersfontein, and operations in the Orange Free State, at Paardeberg, and in the Transvaal, where he was dangerously wounded (several times mentioned in dispatches, C.M.G., and King's medal with two clasps). He was made a Knight Commander of the Bath June 26th, 1904.

Colonel R. H. QUILL, M.B., from the Royal Army Medical Corps is promoted to be Surgeon-General, *vice* Sir E. Townsend, April 22nd. Surgeon-General Quill entered the service as Assistant Surgeon, March 30th, 1872; became Surgeon, March 1st, 1873; Surgeon-Major, March 30th, 1884; Brigade-Surgeon, June 30th, 1896; and Colonel, March 16th, 1902. He was in the Afghan war in 1878-80 with the Kuram Field Force, and accompanied the Zaimusht Expedition, receiving the medal for the campaign.

ARMY MEDICAL RESERVE.

SURGEON-MAJOR R. T. C. ROBERTSON, M.B., to be Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, April 11th.

INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL A. J. STURMER, Madras Establishment, is permitted to retire from the service, from April 12th. He was appointed Assistant-Surgeon, March 31st, 1875, and became Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, March 31st, 1895. He was in the Afghan war in 1878-9 (medal), and with the Burmese Expedition in the Chin Hills in 1892-3 (medal with clasp).

Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel HENRY ADEY, M.B., late of the Bombay Establishment, died at West Kensington on April 24th. He joined as Surgeon, October 1st, 1877, and was made Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel on retirement from the service, October 1st, 1897. His war services included the Afghan war of 1878-80 in Southern Afghanistan (medal); the Egyptian war in 1882, including the battle of Tel-el-Kebir (medal with clasp, and Khedive's bronze star); and the operations of the Zhob Field Force in 1890.

The undermentioned promotions, which have been already announced in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, have received the approval of the King: Captains C. MILNE, V. G. DRAKE-BROCKMAN, W. YOUNG, M.B., J. J. BOURKE, M.B., B. R. CHATTERTON, M.D., F.R.C.S.I., C. B. PRALL, C.E. WILLIAMS, M.B., J. N. MACLEOD, M.B., F.R.C.S.E., W. H. OGILVIE, M.B., T. A. O. LANGSTON, R. HEARD, M.B., E. R. PARRY, M.B., W. H. ORR, P. ST. C. MORE, M.B., all of the Bengal Establishment, to be Majors, from January 30th; Captain G. BIDIE, F.R.C.S.E., Madras Establishment, to be Major, January 30th; Lieutenants A. E. J. LISTER, M.B., F.R.C.S., T. S. B. WILLIAMS, M.B., S. H. L. ABBOTT, M.B., A. W. GREIG, R. E. LLOYD, J. E. CLEMENTS, M.B., H. B. STEEN, M.B., E. BISSET, M.B., R. J. BRADLEY, M.B., J. WOODS, M.B., A. W. OVERBECK-WRIGHT, M.B., D. MUNRO, M.B., T. W. HARLEY, M.B., J. W. MCCOY, R. L. HAGGER, R. M. CARTER, R. D. WILLCOCKS, M.B., T. G. F. PATERSON, M.B., D. G. R. S. BAKER, J. R. J. TYRRELL, M.B., D. G. KAI, R. M. BARRON, W. R. J. SCROGGIE, L. P. FARRELL, T. H. GLOSTER, M.B., H. H. G. KNAPP, M.B., J. H. HORTON, D.S.O., W. A. JUSTICE, M.B., to be Captains, from January 29th.

Lieutenant J. H. GILL, M.B., who joined the department as Lieutenant, July 26th, 1902, is transferred to the temporary half-pay list, from March 27th.

NOTE.—Lieutenants do not belong to any particular Establishment, Bengal or otherwise, but simply to the Indian Medical Service.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS (MILITIA).

CAPTAIN (Honorary Captain in the army) J. DAVIES, Dublin District Company, resigns his commission, April 1st.

ROYAL GARRISON ARTILLERY (VOLUNTEERS).

SURGEON-LIEUTENANT G. WILSON, M.B., the Highland Regiment, to be Surgeon-Captain, April 22nd.

ROYAL ENGINEERS (VOLUNTEERS).

SURGEON-LIEUTENANT E. C. ROBERTS, 1st London, to be Surgeon-Captain, March 28th.

VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

SURGEON-CAPTAIN W. F. FISHER, M.B., 4th (Hunts) Volunteer Battalion the Bedfordshire Regiment, resigns his commission, April 22nd.

Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel G. P. ALEXANDER, 2nd (Angus) Volunteer Battalion the Black Watch (Royal Highlanders), resigns his commission, April 22nd; he is granted the honorary rank of Surgeon-Colonel, and retains his uniform.

Surgeon-Lieutenant E. C. STACK, 2nd Volunteer Battalion the Prince of Wales's (North Staffordshire Regiment), to be Surgeon-Captain, April 22nd.

Vital Statistics.

HEALTH OF ENGLISH TOWNS.

IN seventy-six of the largest English towns, including London, 8,434 births and 4,954 deaths were registered during the week ending April 29th. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had been 15.7, 16.6, and 15.6 per 1,000 in the three preceding weeks, rose again last week to 16.5 per 1,000. The rates in the several towns ranged from 8.1 in Hornsey, 8.2 in King's Norton, 8.3 in Wallasey, 8.7 in Bournemouth, 8.9 in East Ham, and 9.6 in Northampton to 22.1 in St. Helens, 22.8 in Stockport, 22.9 in Wigan, 24.2 in Sunderland, 25.4 in Merthyr Tydfil, 25.8 in Newport (Mon.), and 27.0 in Middlesbrough. In London the rate of mortality was 15.9 per 1,000, while it averaged 16.8 per 1,000 in the seventy-five other large towns. The death-rate from the principal infectious diseases in the seventy-six towns averaged 1.5 per 1,000; in London also this death-rate was equal to 1.5 per 1,000, while among the seventy-five large provincial towns the rates ranged upwards to 3.3 in Oldham, 3.5 in Coventry, 4.7 in Sheffield, 5.2 in St. Helens, 7.1 in Merthyr Tydfil, and 7.7 in West Bromwich. Measles caused a death-rate of 2.4 in Wigan and in Sunderland, 2.8 in Coventry, 2.9 in St. Helens and in Newport (Mon.), 3.1 in Warrington, 3.8 in Sheffield, 6.4 in Merthyr Tydfil, and 6.9 in West Bromwich; and whooping-cough of 1.5 in Willesden, 1.6 in West Ham, and 2.2 in Tottenham. The mortality from scarlet fever, from diphtheria, from enteric fever, and from diarrhœa showed no marked excess in any of the large towns. One fatal case of small-pox was registered in London, but none in any of the large provincial towns. The Metropolitan Asylums Hospitals contained 16 small-pox patients on Saturday last, April 29th, against 21, 15, and 17 on the three preceding Saturdays; 4 new cases were admitted during the week, against 4, 0, and 6 in the three preceding weeks. The number of scarlet-fever patients in these hospitals and in the London Fever Hospital, which had been 2,086, 2,133, and 2,128 at the end of the three preceding weeks, had risen again to 2,182 at the end of last week: 255 new cases were admitted during the week, against 292, 290, and 253 in the three preceding weeks.

HEALTH OF SCOTCH TOWNS.

DURING the week ending Saturday last, April 29th, 1,105 births and 632 deaths were registered in eight of the principal Scotch towns. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had been 16.6, 18.0, and 17.8 per 1,000 in the three preceding weeks, rose again to 18.8 per 1,000 last week, and was 2.3 per 1,000 above the mean rate during the same period in the seventy-six large English towns. Among these Scotch towns the death-rates ranged from 12.8 in Leith and 15.9 in Dundee to 20.8 in Greenock and 21.1 in Glasgow. The death-rate from the principal infectious diseases in these towns averaged 1.8 per 1,000, the highest rates being recorded in Glasgow and Paisley. The 328 deaths registered in Glasgow included 15 which were referred to measles, 18 to whooping-cough, and 6 to diarrhœa. Five fatal cases of measles and 2 of whooping-cough were recorded in Edinburgh, 2 of whooping-cough in Dundee, and 4 in Paisley.

HEALTH OF IRISH TOWNS.

DURING the week ending Saturday, April 22nd, 534 births and 385 deaths were registered in six of the principal Irish towns, against 491 births and 424 deaths in the preceding period. The mean annual death-rate in these towns, which had been 23.9, 20.5, and 22.5 per 1,000 in the three preceding weeks, fell to 20.5 per 1,000 in the week under notice, this figure being 4.9 per 1,000 higher than the mean annual rate in the seventy-six English towns for the corresponding period. The figures ranged from 15.6 in Waterford and 19.8 in Londonderry to 21.9 in Limerick and 23.4 in Dublin. The zymotic death-rate during the same period and in the same six Irish towns averaged 1.4 per 1,000, or 0.4 per 1,000 higher than during the preceding week, the highest figure—2.3—being

recorded in Belfast, while Waterford registered no deaths under this heading at all. The deaths from measles fell to 16 for all Ireland, 9 of these being recorded in Belfast and 4 in Dublin. To diphtheria 5 deaths were ascribed in all, and 1 to scarlet fever. No deaths were registered from small-pox or typhus.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is 3s. 6d., which sum should be forwarded in post-office orders or stamps with the notice not later than Wednesday morning, in order to ensure insertion in the current issue.

BIRTH.

DICKSON.—At Hillcrest, Lochgelly, on April 26th, the wife of D. Elliot Dickson, M.B., C.M., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

CARTER—MACMEIKAR.—On April 27th, at St. Mary's Church, Sandwich, Arthur Hunton Carter, M.D., B.S.Lond., of Wolverhampton, elder son of Thomas Carter, J.P., L.R.C.P.Lond., of Richmond, Yorkshire, to Winifred, elder daughter of John A. Macmeikar, Barrister-at-Law, of the Old House, Sandwich.

DOVE—HEAL.—On April 26th, at St. George's Church, Falfield, Gloucestershire, by the Rev. H. C. Jenner, Vicar of the parish, William Bathurst Dove, M.B., of Gothic Lodge, Leatherhead, only son of the late Dr. J. R. B. Dove, of Pinner, to Marguerite Constance, second daughter of Ambrose Heal, Esq., of Nower Hill, Pinner, Middlesex.

SUMMERS—GREEN.—On the 25th of April, at the Parish Church of Portsmouth, by the Rev. James Paul Weston Green, B.A., brother of the bride, and the Rev. R. S. Medlicott, M.A., Vicar of the parish, Alfred Henry Summers, M.A.Cantab., to Katherine Mary Green, B.A.Lond., only daughter of James Green, surgeon, of Brandon House, Mile End, Portsmouth.

SWANZY—TONNOCHY.—On March 7th, at All Souls Memorial Church, Cawnpore, India, by the Rev. M. W. Raff, Chaplain to the Forces, Henry Hubert Swanzy (Royal Army Medical Corps), elder son of James Swanzy, Esq., late of Connaberry House, Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan, Ireland, to Jessie Struan, youngest daughter of the late Major Valeus Tonnochy, 81st Foot, and of Mrs. Valeus Tonnochy, Athlone, Fleet, Hampshire.

WOOD—PETTIWARD.—On April 25th, at St. Andrew's Church, Finborough, by the Rev. E. Nelson, cousin of the bride, assisted by the Rev. T. H. Housecroft, Vicar of the parish, the Rev. Canon Blunt, uncle of the bride, and the Rev. A. Karney, Rector of Woolpit, Orby R. M. Wood, M.B., C.M., of Woolpit, fourth son of the late Rev. James Russell Wood, LL.D., of Woodbridge and Beyton, to Helen Alice, youngest daughter of R. J. Pettiward, Esq., of Finborough Hall, Suffolk.

Vacancies and Appointments.

This list of vacancies is compiled from our advertisement columns, where full particulars will be found. To ensure notice in this column, advertisements must be received not later than the first post on Wednesday morning.

VACANCIES.

BELGRAVE HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, Clapham Road S.W.—Senior and Junior Resident Medical Officers. Honorarium at the rate of £20 and £10 a year respectively.

CANTERBURY: KENT AND CANTERBURY HOSPITAL.—(1) House Physician. Salary, £90 per annum. (2) Second Honorary Physician.

CENTRAL LONDON OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, Gray's Inn Road, W.C.—House-Surgeon. Salary at the rate of £50 per annum.

COVENTRY AND WARWICKSHIRE HOSPITAL.—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary £60 per annum.

GRIMSBY AND DISTRICT HOSPITAL.—Resident House-Surgeon.

GUY'S HOSPITAL DENTAL SCHOOL.—Travelling scholarship of £100.

HASTINGS: FAIRLIGHT HALL CONVALESCENT HOME.—Visiting Physician, honorary.

HULL: ROYAL INFIRMARY.—House-Physician, resident. Salary, 80 guineas per annum.

KENT COUNTY ASYLUM, Chartham.—Third Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £140 per annum.

LANCASHIRE COUNTY ASYLUM, Winwick, Warrington.—Locum Tenens Medical Officer. Salary 4 guineas per week.

LISTER INSTITUTE OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE.—Assistant Bacteriologist to the Serum Department, Elstree. Salary, £200 per annum.

LIVERPOOL: ROYAL SOUTHERN HOSPITAL.—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, 60 guineas per annum.

MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP.—Junior Resident Medical Officer for the Workhouse. Salary, £110 per annum.

MARGARET STREET HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—Physician, honorary.

MARGATE: ROYAL SEA-BATHING HOSPITAL.—Honorary Assistant Visiting Surgeon.

MIDDLESBROUGH UNION.—Resident Workhouse Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Children's Home. Salary, combined, £250 per annum.

MILLER HOSPITAL AND ROYAL KENT DISPENSARY Greenwich, S.E.—Junior Medical Officer, male. Salary at the rate of £80 per annum.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE: UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM COLLEGE OF MEDICINE.—Demonstrator of Bacteriology.

NORTHAMPTON GENERAL HOSPITAL.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum.

NORTH-EASTERN HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, Hackney Road, N.E.—Pathologist and Bacteriologist. Salary, £75 per annum.

NORWICH: NORFOLK AND NORWICH HOSPITAL.—House-Physician, Salary, £80 per annum.

QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S LYING-IN HOSPITAL, Marylebone Road, N.W. Resident Medical Officer for Out-patient Department. Salary at the rate of £60 per annum.

ROYAL WATERLOO HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN AND WOMEN, Waterloo Bridge Road.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary at the rate of £100 per annum.

SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL.—Consulting Medical Officer of Health. Salary, £150 per annum.

SOUTHWARK UNION.—Assistant Medical Superintendent of the Infirmary, East Dulwich Grove. Salary, £150, rising to £160 per annum.

CERTIFYING FACTORY SURGEONS.—The Chief Inspector of Factories announces a vacancy in the office of Certifying Factory Surgeon at Aldershot, Hampshire.

APPOINTMENTS.

BRUCE, H. W., M.D.Lond., F.R.C.S., Medical Superintendent of the Southwark Union Infirmary.

COOK, Joseph Basil, M.D., B.Ch.Vict., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., Assistant Medical Superintendent to the Kensington Infirmary, Marloes Road, W.

MORIARTY, R. E., L.R.C.P. and S.Edin., District Medical Officer of the Scarborough Union.

SCHOFIELD, S. R., M.B., Clinical Assistant to the Chelsea Hospital for Women.

SKINNER, J. R., M.B., C.M.Aberd., Medical Officer No. 3 District of the Rye Union.

DIARY FOR NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., 8 p.m.—General Meeting. Election of Officers and Council for Session 1905-6. Ordinary Meeting, 8.30 p.m. Discussion on the Perineal Suprapubic Methods of Prostatectomy. To be introduced by Mr. Reginald Harrison.

TUESDAY.

ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY, 20, Hanover Square, W., 8.30 p.m.—Dr. F. Parkes Weber: A Case of "Splenomegalic" or "Myelopathic" Polycythaemia with True Plethora and Arterial Hypertonia without Cyanosis. Dr. William P. S. Branson: Abdominal Tuberculosis in Childhood (a clinical study).

WEDNESDAY.

DERMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., 5.15 p.m.—Demonstration of Cases of Interest.

THURSDAY.

HARVEIAN SOCIETY OF LONDON, Stafford Rooms, Titchborne Street, Edgware Road, W., 8.30 p.m.—Paper: Dr. Hugh Walsham: The Use of the Roentgen Rays in the Diagnosis of Diseases of the Chest; with lantern demonstration.

FRIDAY.

CLINICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 20, Hanover Square, W., 8.30 p.m.—The following papers will be read:—(1) Dr. Sidney Phillips: A Case of Typhoid Fever with Pneumonia, due to the Typhoid Bacillus (with specimen and microscopic sections exhibited). (2) Mr. J. Hutchinson, jun., and Mr. H. Lett: The Operative Treatment of certain Cases of Fracture of the Astragalus. (3) Mr. J. Hutchinson, jun., and Mr. H. Lett: A series of cases of Fracture of the Astragalus and Os Calcis.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SOCIETY, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., 8.30 p.m.—The discussion on The Spread of Small-Pox occasioned by Small-Pox Hospitals during 1900-4 will be continued by Dr. Newsholme.

POST-GRADUATE COURSES AND LECTURES.

CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL, Thursday, 4 p.m.—Surgical Cases.

NATIONAL HOSPITAL FOR THE PARALYSED AND EPILEPTIC, Queen Square, Bloomsbury.—Tuesday and Friday, Family and Hereditary Disease.

NORTH-EAST LONDON POST-GRADUATE COLLEGE, Tottenham Hospital, N., Thursday, 4.30 p.m.—Opening lecture of Summer Session by Dr. H. D. Rolleston: High Arterial Tension; its Results and Prevention.

MEDICAL GRADUATES' COLLEGE AND POLYCLINIC, 22, Chenies Street, W.C.—The following clinical demonstrations have been arranged for next week at 4 p.m. each day:—Monday, Skin; Tuesday, Medical; Wednesday, Surgical; Thursday, Surgical; Friday, Throat. Lectures at 5.15 p.m. each day will be given as follows:—Monday, The Nature of Mental Derangement; Tuesday, Some Clinical Aspects of Nephritis: Wednesday, The Prevention and Treatment of *Post-partum* Haemorrhage; Thursday, When would you Operate?

WEST LONDON POST-GRADUATE COLLEGE, Hammersmith, W.—The following are the arrangements for next week:—Monday, 5 p.m., Practical Surgery; Tuesday, 5 p.m., Head Injuries; Wednesday, 5 p.m., Head Injuries: Thursday, 3 p.m., General Paralysis (at Hanwell Lunatic Asylum); Friday, 5 p.m., Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.

CALENDAR OF THE ASSOCIATION.

Month.	Day of Week.	Meetings to be Held.
May	7...Sunday..	
,,	8...MONDAY ...	Westminster Division, *Metropolitan Counties Branch*, 20, Hanover Square, 8.30 p.m.
,,	9...TUESDAY ...	LONDON: Organization Committee.
,,	10...WEDNESDAY	
,,	11...THURSDAY...	LONDON: Hospitals Committee. Folkestone Division, *South-Eastern Branch*, Hotel Wampach, 8.30 p.m. Norwood Division *South-Eastern Branch*, St. John's Hospital, Morden Hill, Lewisham, 4 p.m. Staffordshire Branch, Victoria Hotel, Wolverhampton, 3 p.m.
,,	12...FRIDAY ...	Hampstead Division, *Metropolitan Counties Branch*, St. Peter's Lecture Hall, Belsize Square, N.W., 5 p.m.
,,	13...SATURDAY...	
,,	14...Sunday..	
,,	15...MONDAY ...	
,,	16...TUESDAY ...	LONDON: Medico-Political Committee, 3 p.m. Shropshire and Mid Wales Branch, Salop Infirmary, 3 p.m.
,,	17...WEDNESDAY	LONDON: Central Council, 10 a.m. Dorset and West Hants Branch, Blandford. Salisbury Division, *Southern Branch*, Annual Meeting, Infirmary, Salisbury, 8.15 p.m., preceded by Dinner at the County Hotel, 7 p.m.
,,	18...THURSDAY...	Croydon Division, *South-Eastern Branch*, Croydon General Hospital, 4 p.m.
,,	19...FRIDAY ...	Reigate Division, *South Eastern Branch*, Laker's Hotel, Redhill, 6 p.m. Bedford and Herts Division, *South Midland Branch*, Holly Lodge, Luton, 2.45 p.m.
,,	20...SATURDAY...	
,,	21...Sunday..	
,,	22...MONDAY ...	
,,	23...TUESDAY ...	General Medical Council Session commences.
,,	24...WEDNESDAY	Matters for consideration by Quarterly Medico-Political Committee should be notified to Medical Secretary on or before this day. Brighton Division, *South-Eastern Branch*, Dispensary, 113, Queen's Road, Brighton, 4.30 p.m. South Eastern of Ireland Branch, Annual Meeting, Kilkenny.
,,	25...THURSDAY...	City Division, *Metropolitan Counties Branch*, Annual General Meeting, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, E.C., 4 p.m. Wandsworth Division, *Metropolitan Counties Branch*, Annual Meeting, Crichton's, Clapham Junction, 9.30 p.m., preceded by Annual Dinner, 7 p.m.
,,	26...FRIDAY ...	North Cumberland Division, *Border Counties Branch*, County Hotel, Carlisle, 3.30 p.m. West Cumberland Division, *Border Counties Branch*, Annual Meeting, Whitehaven.
,,	27...SATURDAY...	
,,	28...Sunday..	
,,	29...MONDAY ...	
,,	30...TUESDAY ...	Folkestone Division, *South-Eastern Branch*, Annual Meeting, Hotel Wampach, 7 p.m. also meeting of Folkestone, Dover, and Ashford Constituency, 7.30 p.m., Dinner, 8.30 p.m. Trowbridge Division, *Bath and Bristol Branch*, Annual Meeting, Trowbridge
,,	31...WEDNESDAY	Scientific Grantees have to report to Council on or before this date. South Carnarvon and Merioneth Division, *North Wales Branch*, Annual Meeting, Dolgelly.
June	1...THURSDAY...	Note that in order to facilitate the procedure of the Council for the appointment of Committees, Branch Secretaries are requested to send in to the General Secretary the Election Returns of their Branch Representatives by June 27th.
,,	2...FRIDAY ...	Matters for consideration by Quarterly Ethical Committee should be notified to the Medical Secretary on or before this day.
,,	3...SATURDAY...	
June	4...Sunday..	
,,	5...MONDAY ...	
,,	6...TUESDAY ...	
,,	7...WEDNESDAY.	LONDON: Medico-Political Committee.
,,	8...THURSDAY...	Birmingham Branch, Annual Meeting, Medical Institute, Birmingham, 3.30 p.m.
,,	9...FRIDAY ...	
,,	10...SATURDAY...	
,,	11...Sunday..	
,,	12...MONDAY ...	*Bank Holiday.*
,,	13...TUESDAY ...	
,,	14...WEDNESDAY	
,,	15...THURSDAY...	The last day upon which the General Secretary can receive references for the Conference of Branch and Division Secretaries on July 25th at Leicester.
,,	16...FRIDAY ...	LONDON: Ethical Committee.
,,	17...SATURDAY...	
,,	18...Sunday..	
,,	19...MONDAY ...	Election of Representatives: July 3rd.
,,	20...TUESDAY ...	
,,	21...WEDNESDAY	Notices of Motion for Quarterly Council Meeting must be given to General Secretary on or before this day. South-Eastern Branch, Annual Meeting, Guildhall, Canterbury, 2.15 p.m.
,,	22...THURSDAY...	Altrincham Division, *Lancashire and Cheshire Branch*, Annual Meeting, Board Room, Altrincham Infirmary, 5 p.m.
,,	23...FRIDAY ...	
,,	24...SATURDAY...	
,,	25...Sunday..	
,,	26...MONDAY ...	
,,	27...TUESDAY ...	Matters for consideration by Organization Committee on July 11th should be notified to Medical Secretary on or before this day.
,,	28...WEDNESDAY	Brighton Division, *South-Eastern Branch*, Annual Meeting, 113, Queen's Road, Brighton, 4.30 p.m.
,,	29...THURSDAY...	East Anglian Branch, Annual Meeting, Norwich.
,,	30...FRIDAY ...	Association Research Scholarships expire.
July	1...SATURDAY...	Research Scholarships date from now.
,,	2...Sunday..	
,,	3...MONDAY ...	Division Returns of Representatives and Branch Returns for Council this day week. Last day for electing Representatives of Divisions for Representative Meeting.
,,	4...TUESDAY ...	
,,	5...WEDNESDAY	
,,	6...THURSDAY...	
,,	7...FRIDAY ...	
,,	8...SATURDAY...	
,,	9...Sunday..	
,,	10...MONDAY ...	Last day for Division Secretaries to send General Secretary returns of election of Representatives. Refer to Notice of June 1st as to forwarding returns of Election of Branch Representatives.
	11...TUESDAY ...	LONDON: Organization Committee.
,,	12...WEDNESDAY	Last day for Branch Representatives to nominate Candidates for Co-option to the Council.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The seventy-third annual meeting of the Association will be held at Leicester on July 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, and 28th. The Honorary Local Secretaries are Dr. Astley V. Clarke, 37, London Road, Leicester, and Mr. F. Bolton Carter, M.S., 99, London Road, Leicester; the Honorary Secretary of the Pathological Museum is Dr. Robert Sevestre, 119, London Road, Leicester.

The Annual General Meeting for business will begin at 2 p.m. on Monday, July 24th, and the first session of the Annual Representative Meeting will be held immediately afterwards. The first meetings of the Sections will begin at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 26th.

Printed and published by the British Medical Association at their Office, No. 429, Strand, in the Parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, in the County of Middlesex.